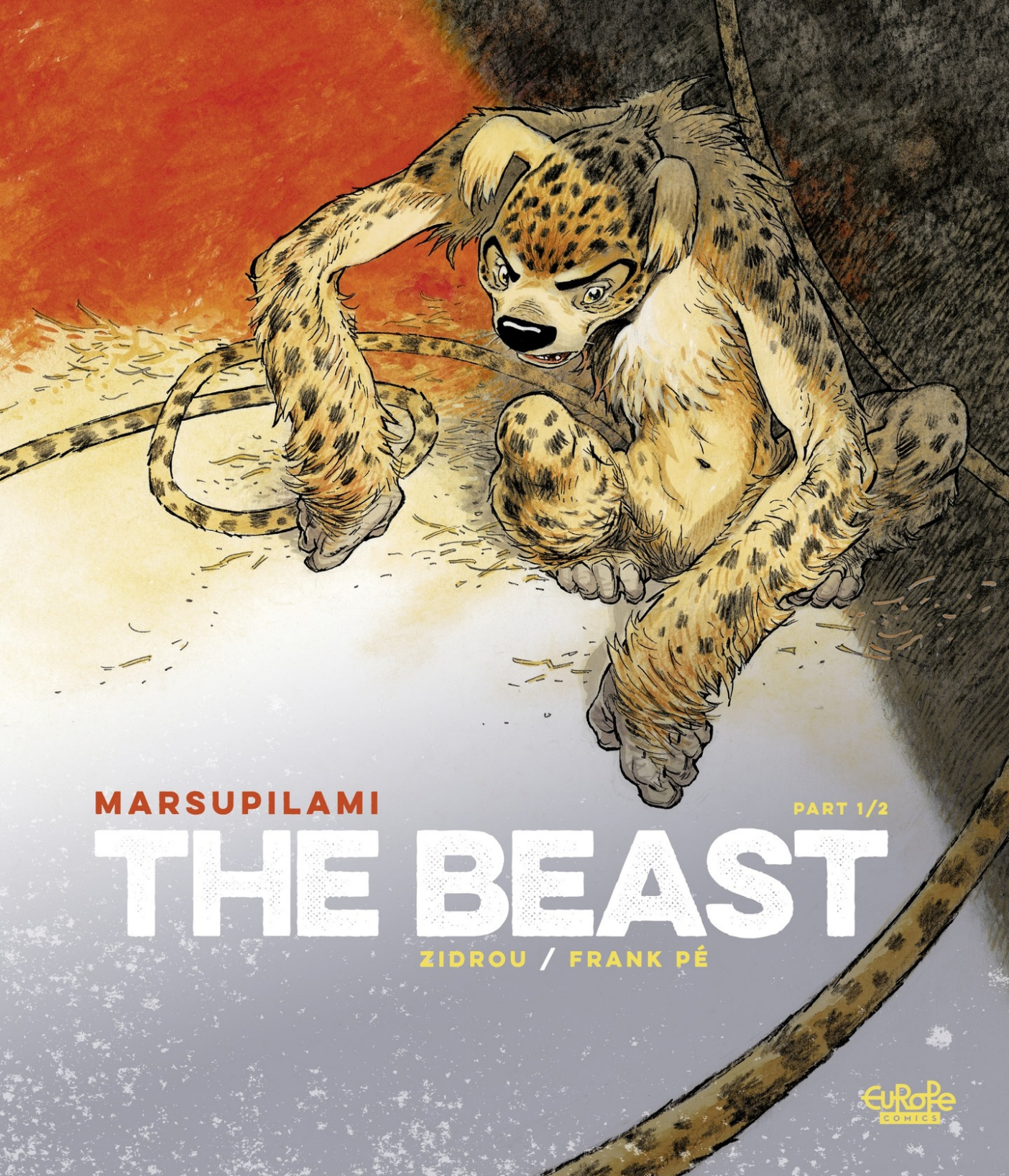


MARSUPILAMI

PART 1/2

THE BEAST

ZIDROU / FRANK PÉ

EUROPE COMICS

MARSUPILAMI

PART 1/2

THE BEAST

ZIDROU / FRANK PÉ

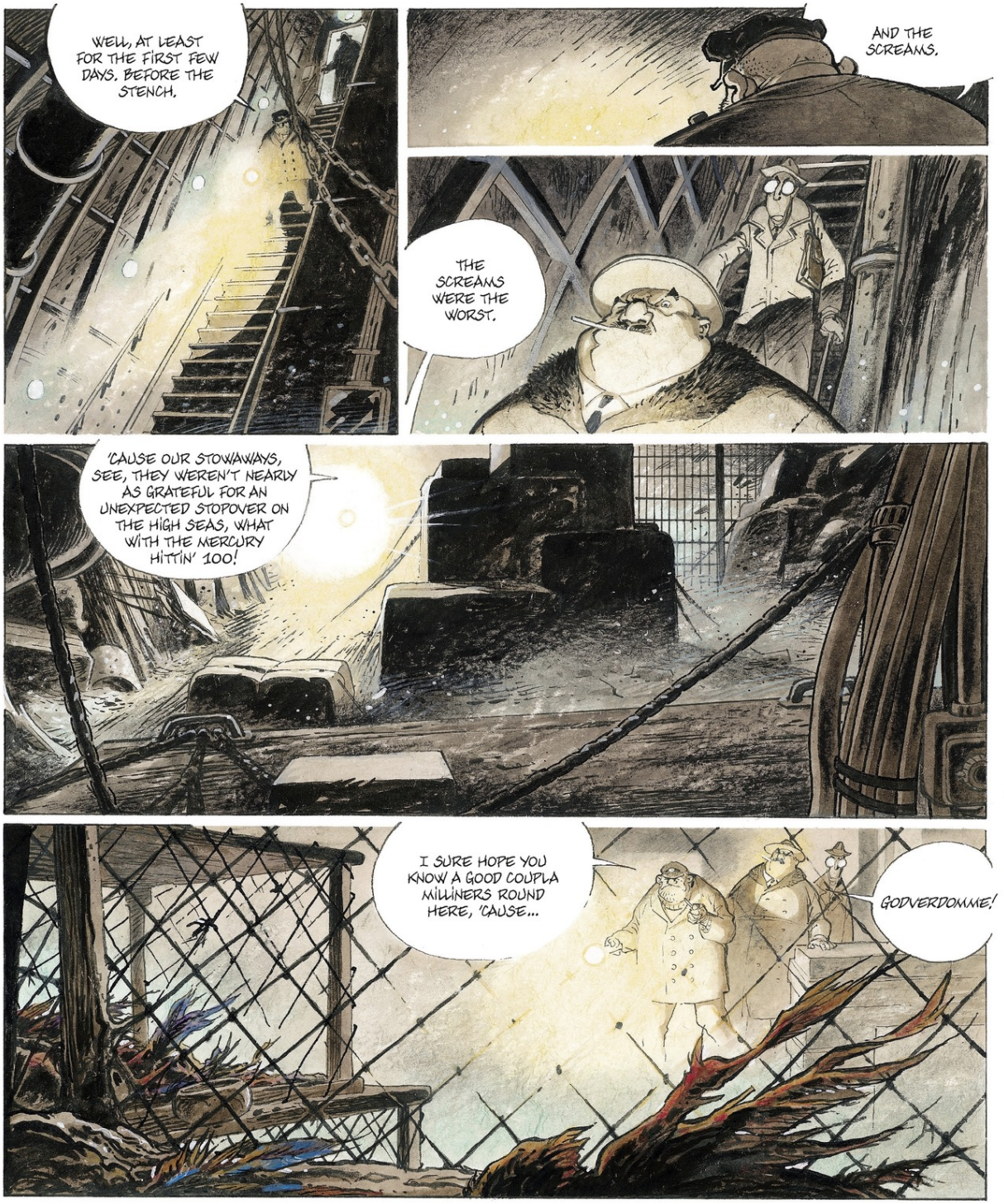
EUROPE COMICS

PORT OF
ANTWERP,
BELGIUM.

LATE NOVEMBER, 1955.

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT REPAIRS ON THE HIGH SEAS?
COND
PANA

A CONNECTION ROD JUST GAVE UP THE GHOST WHILE WE WERE 130 MILES OFF THE COAST OF BRAZIL.
TALK ABOUT BAD LUCK!
WE HAD TO WAIT SEVENTEEN DAYS FOR THE REPLACEMENT PART FROM COLOMBIA! SEVENTEEN DAYS!
ADD TO THAT FOUR DAYS FOR THE REPAIRS, AND I'LL LET YOU IMAGINE HOW MUCH CUSSIN' WAS GOIN' ROUND.
LUCKILY, WE WERE BLESSED WITH A SEA AS CLEAR AS GLASS AND ALL THE SUNSHINE IN THE WORLD. SO WE KILLED TIME ON DECK BY TANNIN' OUR BODACIOUS BODS BETWEEN DIPS.


WELL, AT LEAST FOR THE FIRST FEW DAYS. BEFORE THE STENCH.
AND THE SCREAMS.
THE SCREAMS WERE THE WORST.
'CAUSE OUR STOWAWAYS, SEE, THEY WEREN'T NEARLY AS GRATEFUL FOR AN UNEXPECTED STOPOVER ON THE HIGH SEAS, WHAT WITH THE MERCURY HITTIN' 100!
I SURE HOPE YOU KNOW A GOOD COUPLA MILLINERS ROUND HERE, 'CAUSE...
GODVERDOMME!

HELL'S BELLS, TILLIEUX! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH CASH I JUST LOST HERE?
WAIT TILL YOU GET THE BILL FOR BLOWIN' THE ENGINE!
YOU SHOULD'VE-- I DON'T KNOW--TENDED TO THEM?! GIVEN THEM WATER, AT LEAST!!
OH YEAH? WHAT ELSE YOU THINK WE SHOULDA DONE, HUH? LET 'EM WALK AROUND ON DECK FOR A COUPLA HOURS A DAY TO STRETCH THEIR WINGS?
AS FOR WATER... CALL ME CRAZY, BUT WHEN THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH OF THE STUFF, MY MEN COME FIRST.
LOOKS LIKE YOUR LITTLE... "KITTENS" FARED BETTER.

THEN AGAIN, THANKS TO CONTAINER 377, KITTY AND PUSSY WEREN'T EXACTLY LACKIN' FOR FRESH MEAT!
AK 377

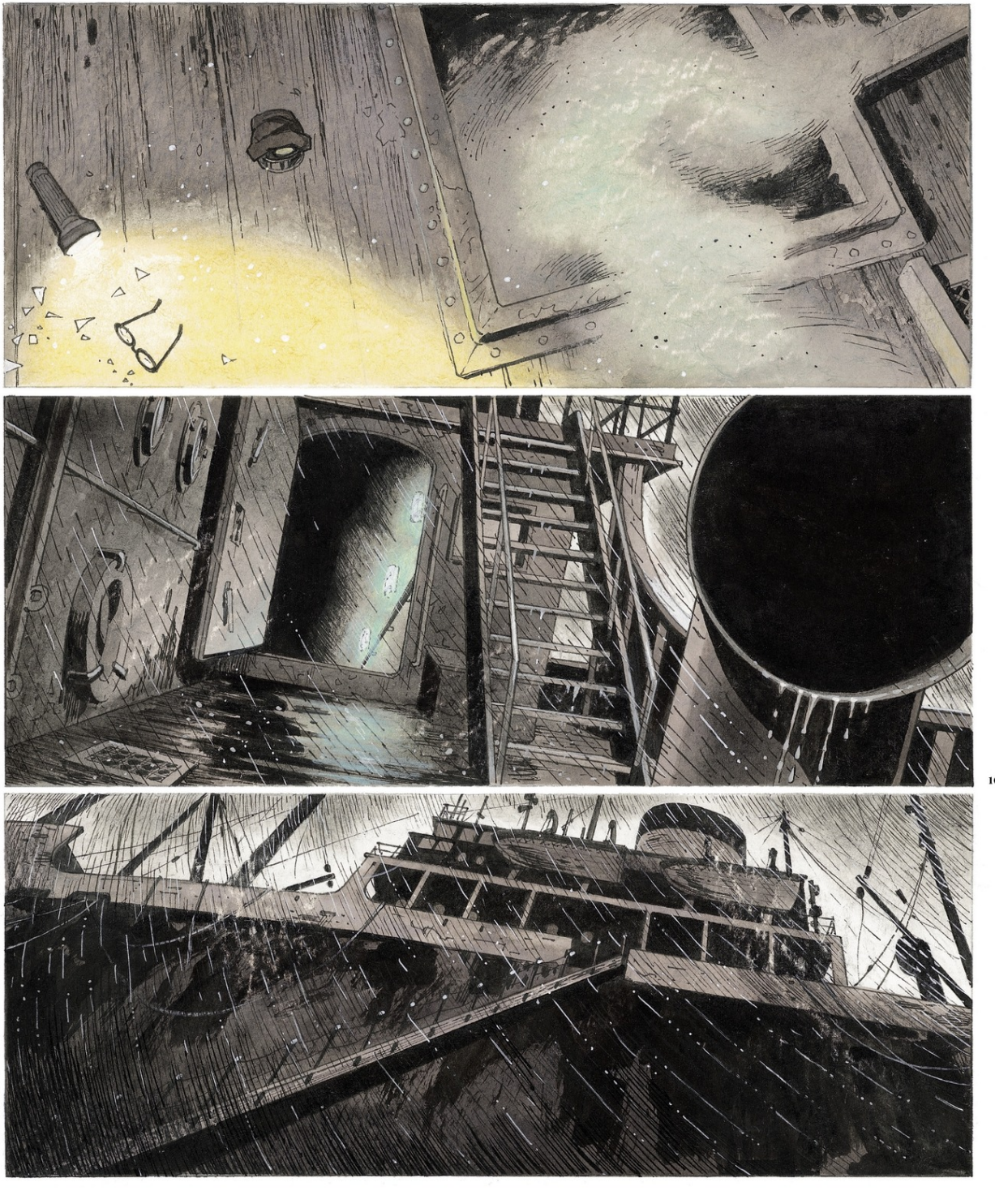
KAAK
THOSE DAMN MACAQUES SURE DID MAKE A RACKET!
HOW... HOW MANY WERE YOU ABLE TO SAVE?
NOT A ONE.
NO, WAIT! ONE OF 'EM MADE IT OUT ALIVE, JUS' ONE.
NOW WHERE'D HE GET TO?

AH! THERE!
KSIIIIIII
KSIIIIIII
KSIIIIIII
WHAT... WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL IS THAT?
HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW? A MONKEY! THEM CHAHUTA HUNTERS CAUGHT HIM IN THEIR NETS WITH THE REST OF 'EM.

IMPOSSIBLE! CAN'T YOU SEEN THE COLOR OF HIS COAT?!?
HAND ME THAT FLASHLIGHT, TILLIEUX!
NOW THE TAIL ON THAT BEAST IS HONEST TO GOD INCREDIBLE. IT'S LIKE SOME DRUNKEN NATURALIST GLUED A GARDEN HOSE TO HIS ASS.
MONKEY OR NOT, THIS CREATURE MIGHT HELP ME RECOUP MY COSTS!
LEPENNETIER! RUN AND TELL THE ANVERS ZOO!
THAT DIRTY CRITTER WOULDN'T LET US GET CLOSE ONCE DURING THE WHOLE DANG TRIP, SO WE WEREN'T ABLE TO MEASURE THE TAIL. BUT I'D SAY IT'S TWENTY FEET, EASY!
MAKES YOU WONDER WHAT IN THE HELL IT EVEN USES A THING LIKE THAT...
KNOG
...FOR?

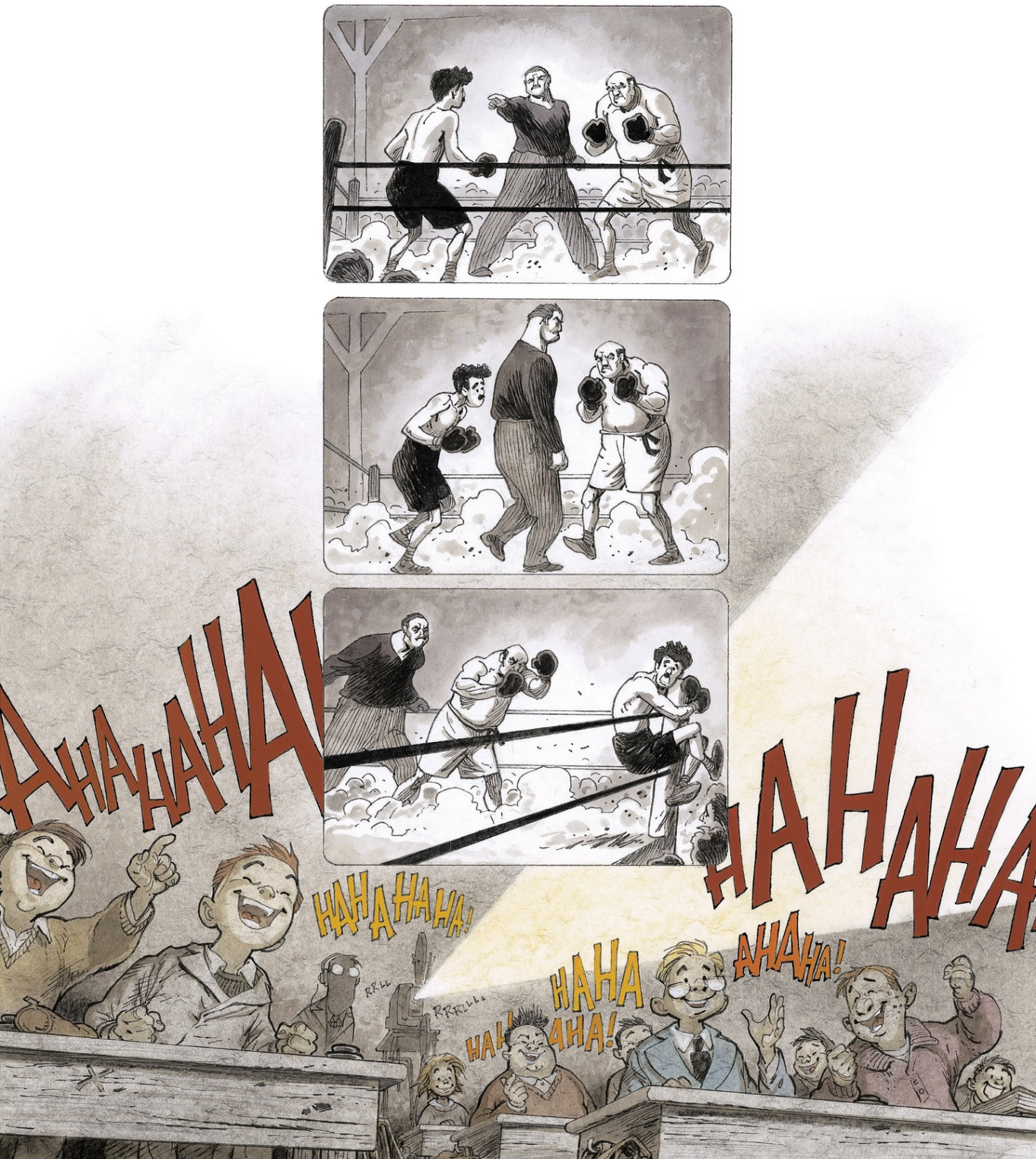
TILLIEUX?
TILLIEUX?
KNOG

AAAAAAAAAAHHHA



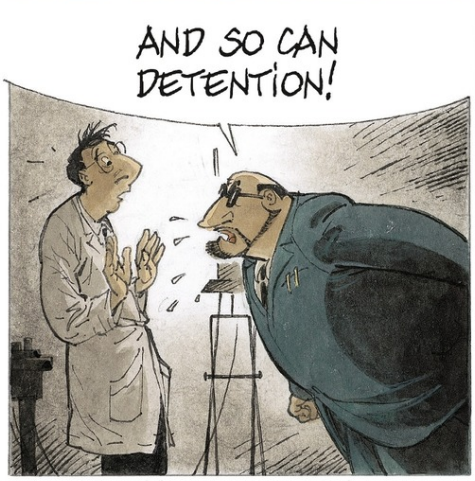
CONDOR
PANAMA

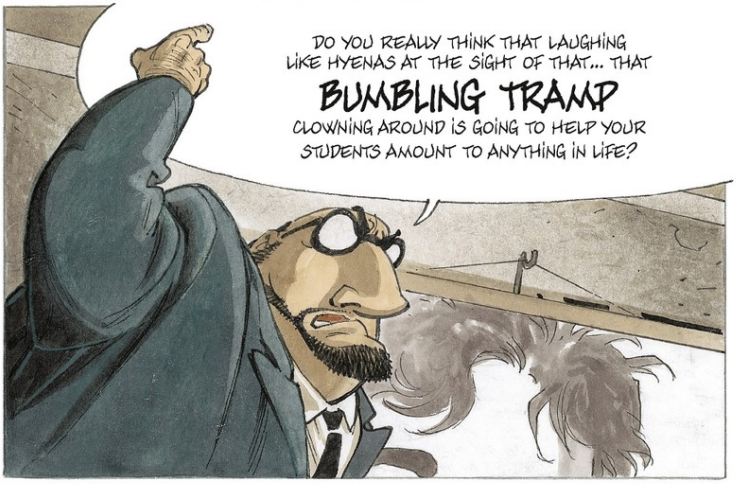
HOOBA!


AHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHA!
HAHA
HA!
AHA!
AHAHA!
HAHAHA
RRLL
RRRLLL

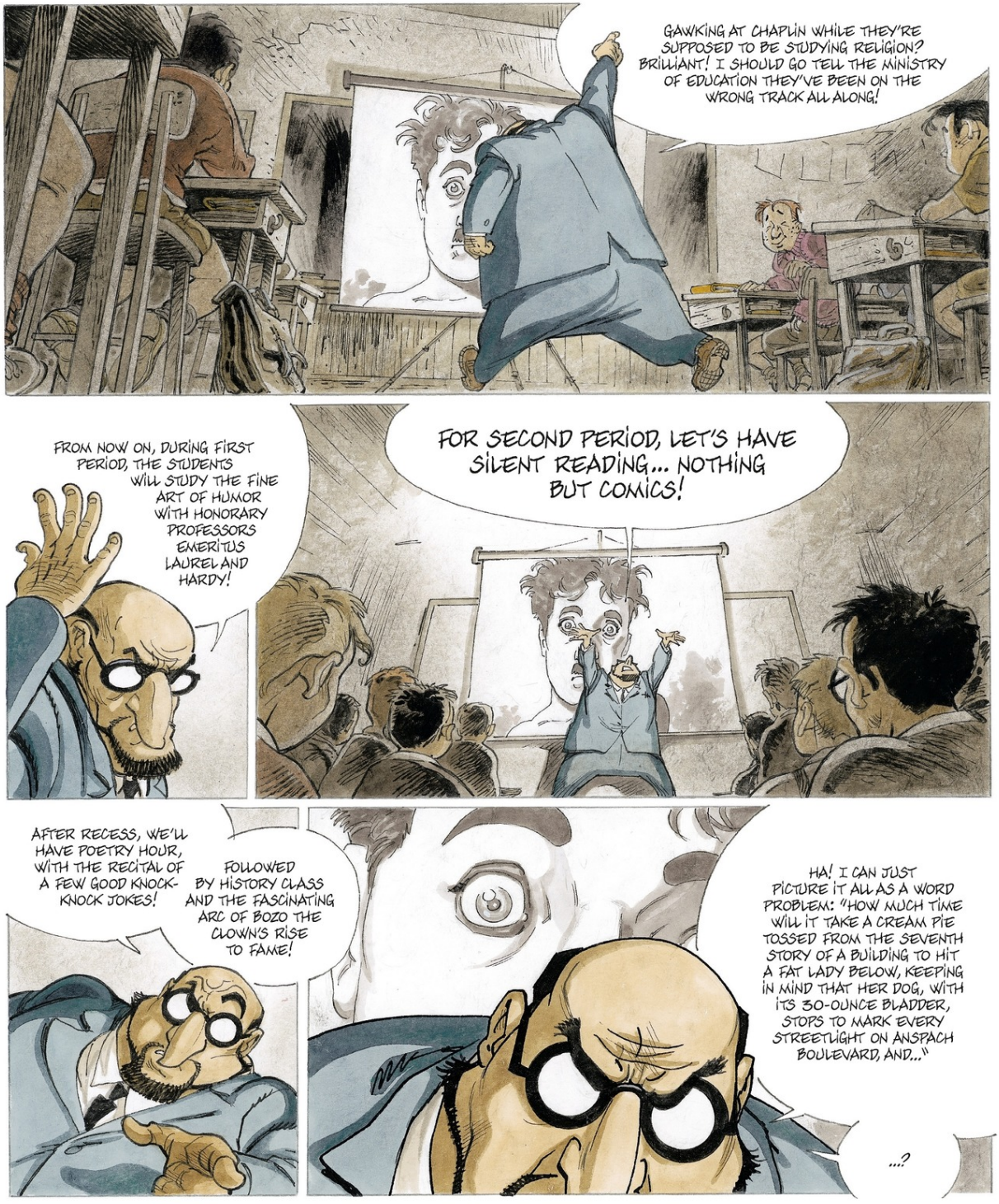
HAHAHA
HAHAHA
HA
HA
H

GET YOUR HEAD OUT OF THE CLOUDS, LECRIQUE! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU? ONCE THEY'VE FALLEN FROM THE TREE, THE AUTUMN LEAVES ARE NO LONGER A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO OUR LITTLE POETS...
...BUT RATHER DEBRIS AND DETRITUS!
BUT I SWEAR, SIR! I RAKED THEM ALL INTO A PILE, NICE AND PROPER! IT'S THESE DARN KIDS, WHO TAKE A NASTY PLEASURE JUMPING IN AS SOON AS I TURN MY HEAD!
?
HAHAHAHA!...
HIHI!
HO HO HA!




DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT LAUGHING LIKE HYENAS AT THE SIGHT OF THAT... THAT
BUMBLING TRAMP
CLOWNING AROUND IS GOING TO HELP YOUR STUDENTS AMOUNT TO ANYTHING IN LIFE?

* GOD ALMIGHTY! (WALLOON EXPRESSION)


GAWKING AT CHAPLIN WHILE THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE STUDYING RELIGION? BRILLIANT! I SHOULD GO TELL THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION THEY'VE BEEN ON THE WRONG TRACK ALL ALONG!
FROM NOW ON, DURING FIRST PERIOD, THE STUDENTS WILL STUDY THE FINE ART OF HUMOR WITH HONORARY PROFESSORS EMERITUS LAUREL AND HARDY!
FOR SECOND PERIOD, LET'S HAVE SILENT READING... NOTHING BUT COMICS!
AFTER RECESS, WE'LL HAVE POETRY HOUR, WITH THE RECITAL OF A FEW GOOD KNOCK-KNOCK JOKES!
FOLLOWED BY HISTORY CLASS AND THE FASCINATING ARC OF BOZO THE CLOWN'S RISE TO FAME!
HA! I CAN JUST PICTURE IT ALL AS A WORD PROBLEM: "HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE A CREAM PIE TOSSED FROM THE SEVENTH STORY OF A BUILDING TO HIT A FAT LADY BELOW, KEEPING IN MIND THAT HER DOG, WITH ITS 30-OUNCE BLADDER, STOPS TO MARK EVERY STREETLIGHT ON ANSPACH BOULEVARD, AND..."
...?

IT WAS AN EXAGGERATED RHETORICAL DEVICE, YOU BUNCH OF DUNCES!
PFFF...
OAHH...
PRRRT!
PFFFT!
PFFFT!
MFFF...

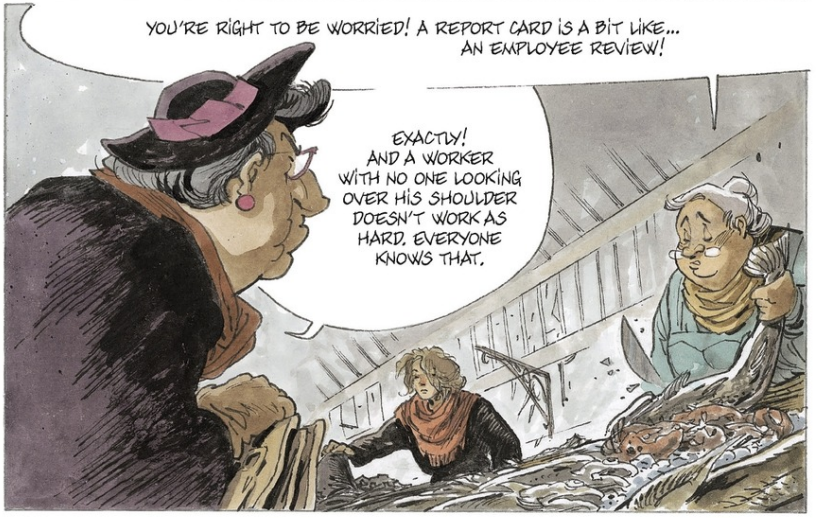
CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING ELSE, MRS. STEINBERG?
MONKFISH, MY LITTLE ALAIN JUST LOOOVES MONKFISH!

ROLAND
WHICH REMINDS ME, MRS. ROLAND...

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT TEACHER, MR. BONIFACE?

WELL, GOODNESS! I DON'T HAVE TO SPEND EVERY NIGHT HELPING MY PHILIPPE WITH HIS HOMEWORK ANYMORE, SO THAT'S NICE!
THAT'S WHAT WORRIES ME... NO MORE HOMEWORK OR READING!

I HEAR THE MAN DOESN'T EVEN SO MUCH AS HAND OUT GRADES!


YOU'RE RIGHT TO BE WORRIED! A REPORT CARD IS A BIT LIKE... AN EMPLOYEE REVIEW!
EXACTLY! AND A WORKER WITH NO ONE LOOKING OVER HIS SHOULDER DOESN'T WORK AS HARD. EVERYONE KNOWS THAT.

NOT ALL EDUCATION CAN BE MEASURED WITH GRADES!
PERSONALLY, I QUITE LIKE MR. BONIFACE. HE'S NICE.
JUST SEEING MY LITTLE FRANÇOIS COME BACK FROM SCHOOL EVERY DAY WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE WARMS MY HEART!

LET IT GO, MRS. ROLAND!
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT "MISS" VAN DEN KROOT IS ON THE SIDE OF THE OCCUPATION! GOT A REAL CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH SOME OF 'EM, EVEN!

I'M TELLING YOU, A FOUL AS BIG AS THE PORT OF ANTWERP!
VRRAAAOORKRR
THAT WOULDA PUT BEERSCHOT BACK IN THE MATCH, YOU MARK MY WORDS!
TOO BAD! INSTEAD, ANTWERP PULLED OUT A VICTORY AND NOW THEY'RE IN LINE FOR THE TITLE!
BAH! THE ROYAL ANTWERP FOOTBALL CLUB, CHAMPIONS OF BELGIUM...
ALL I CAN SAY IS I'LL BE HAPPIER IF ANDERLECHT WINS THE--
??

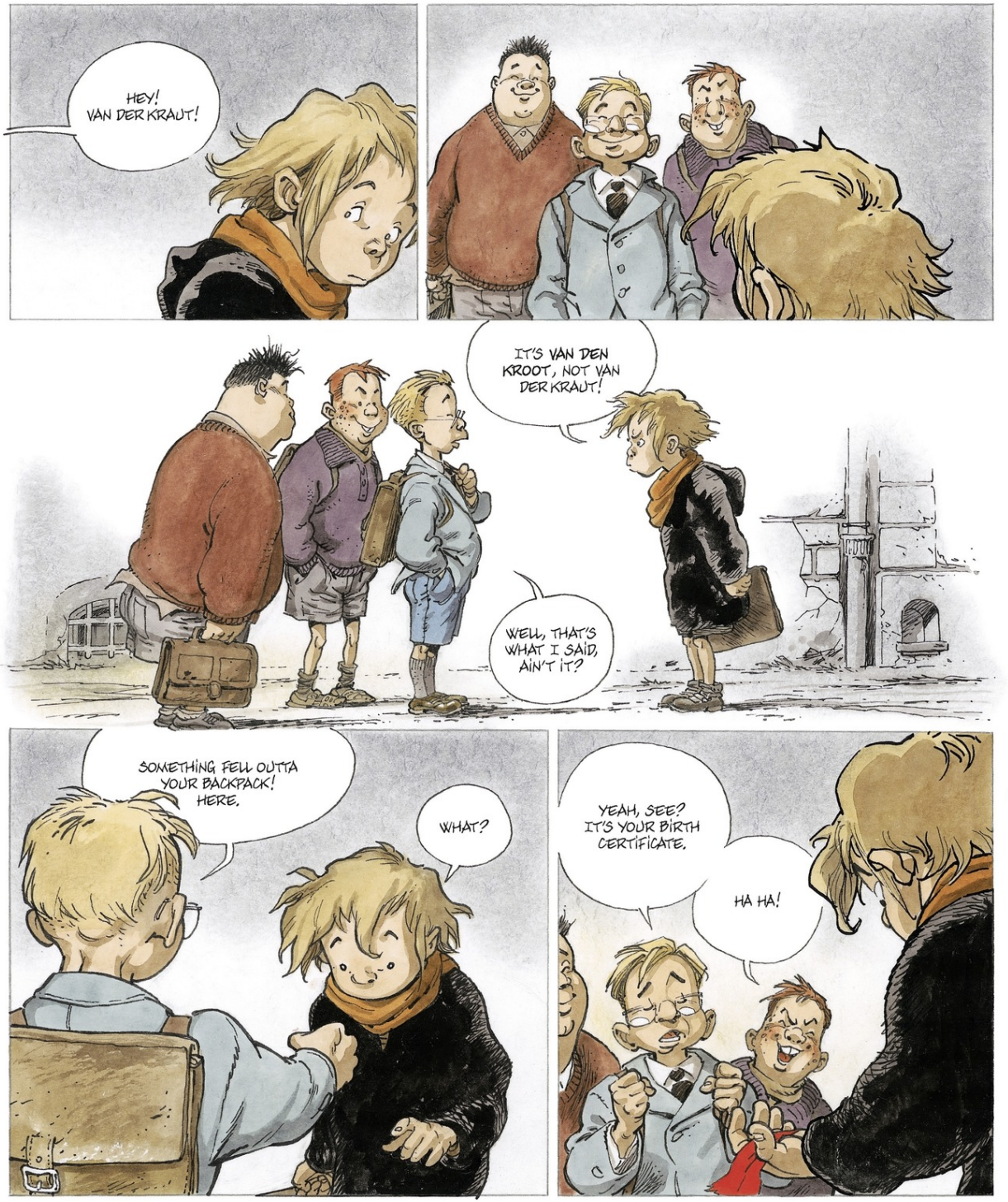
VERDOEME!!
iAiiiiiiiiiiKK
WHAT THE HECK DIDJA BRAKE LIKE THAT FOR?!
DID... DID YOU SEE WHAT I SAW?
THERE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD! SOME KID IN A YELLOW JACKET...
...WITH A BIG ROPE!

??
WELL, HOT DAMN! WHERE'D HE GO?
YOU KNOW WHAT? YOUR LITTLE COWBOY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD? THAT'S JUS' LIKE THAT PENALTY IN BEERSCHOT'S FAVOR LAST SUNDAY...
YOU DREAMED IT UP!

VRAOOOMRRRRRR
MVROOOORRVRRRRRRRE
BRUXELLES
BRUSSEL
VVROAAAAARMMMRROWW

VRMMMMMM...
WROAAHH!!

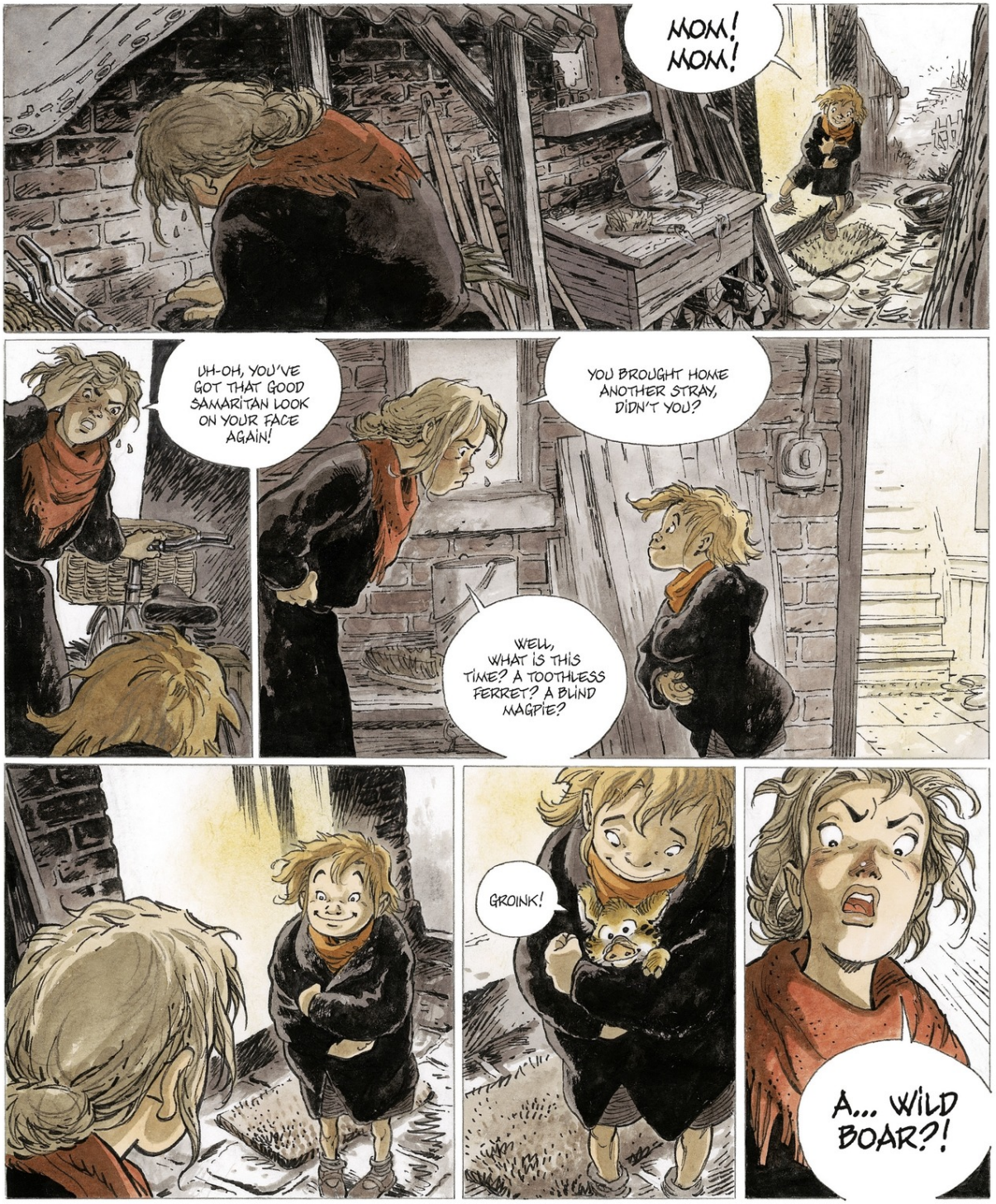
HAVE A GOOD AFTERNOON, KIDS!
GOODBYE!
DON'T FORGET YOUR SWIM TRUNKS FOR THE POOL TOMORROW!
BYE, MR. BONIFACE!
TAKE CARE, FRANÇOIS.
ER! FRANÇOIS, IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND... GIVE MY FEELINGS...
AHEM! I MEANT... GIVE MY GREETINGS TO YOUR MOTHER...


HEY! VAN DER KRAUT!
IT'S VAN DEN KROOT, NOT VAN DER KRAUT!
WELL, THAT'S WHAT I SAID, AIN'T IT?
SOMETHING FELL OUTTA YOUR BACKPACK! HERE.
WHAT?
YEAH, SEE? IT'S YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATE.
HA HA!

HEIL HITLER!
SAY HI TO YOUR OLD MAN... IF YOU FIND HIM!
YOU'RE A LOUT, STINKY KRAUT!
GOOD ONE, SLY!
HA HA! D'YOU SEE THE LOOK ON HIS MUG?
MEH! THAT WAS ALMOST TOO EASY!
VAN DER KRAUT AIN'T JUST A STINKER...
...HE SPOILED THE WHOLE BATCH!

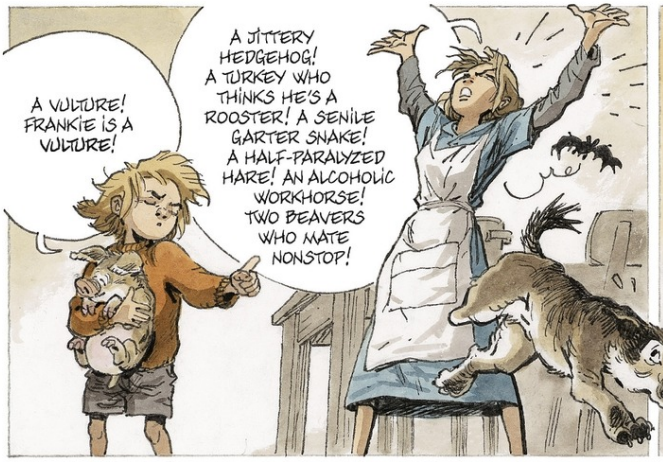
SNRLL
CRAC!
GROINK!
?
KRRR
KRRR

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!


MOM! MOM!
UH-OH, YOU'VE GOT THAT GOOD SAMARITAN LOOK ON YOUR FACE AGAIN!
YOU BROUGHT HOME ANOTHER STRAY, DIDN'T YOU?
WELL, WHAT IS THIS TIME? A TOOTHLESS FERRET? A BLIND MAGPIE?
GROINK!
A... WILD BOAR?!

SLUP! SLUP! SLUP!
"SPOT"?
"PUDDLES"?
SLUP
OR MAYBE "PRINCEY"?
THAT'S GOT A NICE RING TO IT, RIGHT?
ABSOLUTELY NOT! NO "PRINCEY" OR "BARON" OR "PRINCESS" OR "DUCHESS"!
SLAP SLUP
VLOTCH
42
NO NAMES AT ALL! BECAUSE FIRST THING TOMORROW, YOU'RE GOING TO THE WOODS AND SETTING IT FREE.
CHRRCHRR
IN THE FOREST?!
BORP
BUT MOOOOOM! HE'S JUST A BABY! AND HE'LL BE ALL BY HIMSELF! HE WON'T LAST AN HOUR BEFORE SOME FOX EATS HIM OR A HUNTER SHOOTS HIM!
IT'S CALLED NATURAL SELECTION, HONEY!

THAT'S NOT FAIR! WHAT IF I WAS GOBBLED UP BY A FOX OR KILLED BY A HUNTER? WOULD YOU CALL THAT "NATURAL SELECTION" TOO?
THAT'S ENOUGH, FRANÇOIS! YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR! THIS IS A HOUSE, NOT A ZOO!
AN ALBINO MOLE! A DEAF OWL! A FEATHERLESS QUAIL! AN OLD CAT WITH INDIGESTION! SALAMANDERS! A THREE-LEGGED DOG!
THE ONLY DAYTIME BAT IN THE WORLD! AN EAGLE THAT CAN'T EVEN FLY!
WIF!


A VULTURE! FRANKIE IS A VULTURE!
A JITTERY HEDGEHOG! A TURKEY WHO THINKS HE'S A ROOSTER! A SENILE GARTER SNAKE! A HALF-PARALYZED HARE! AN ALCOHOLIC WORKHORSE! TWO BEAVERS WHO MATE NONSTOP!

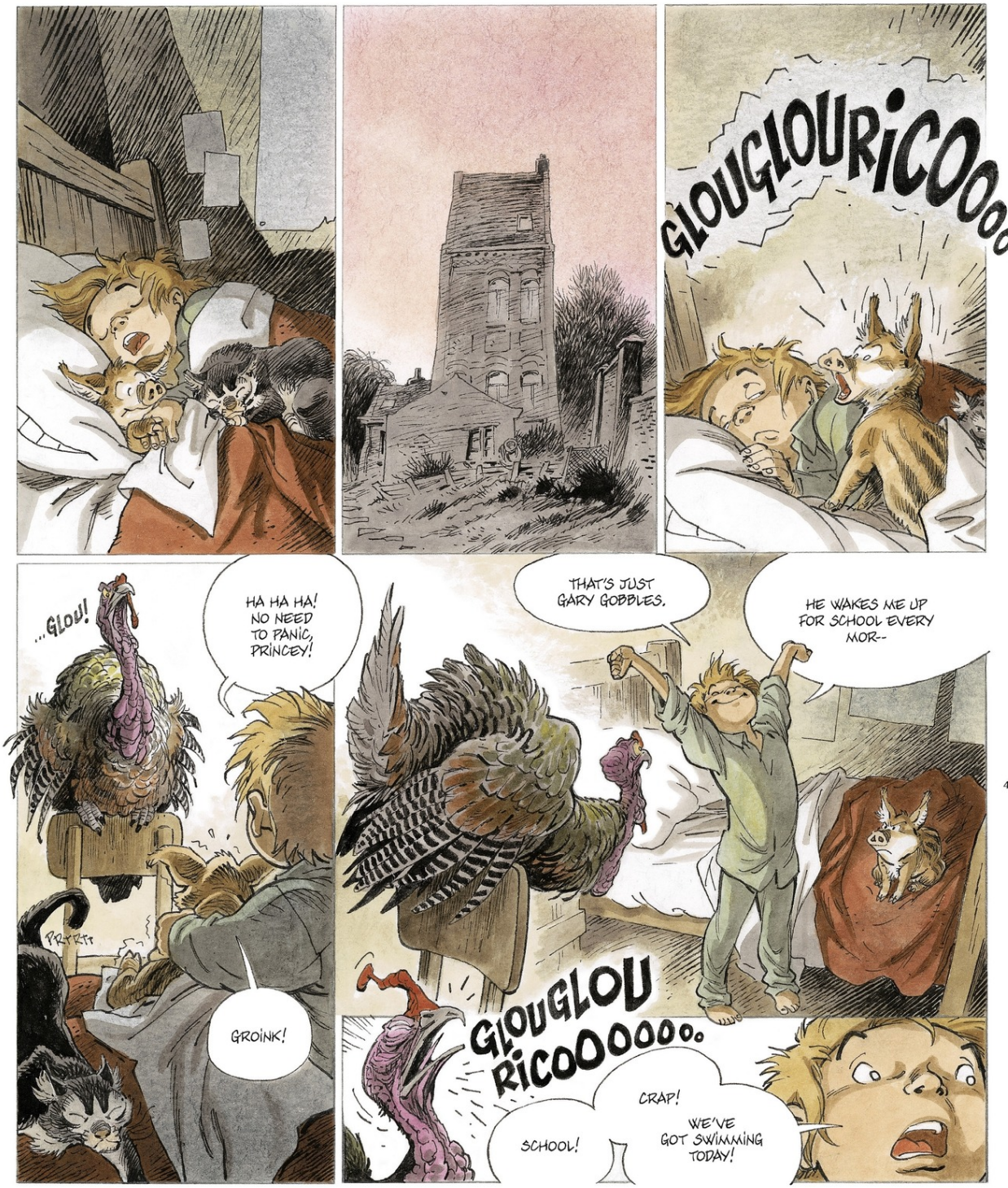
ALL WE NEED IS A UNICORN AND OUR NOAH'S ARK WILL BE FULL!

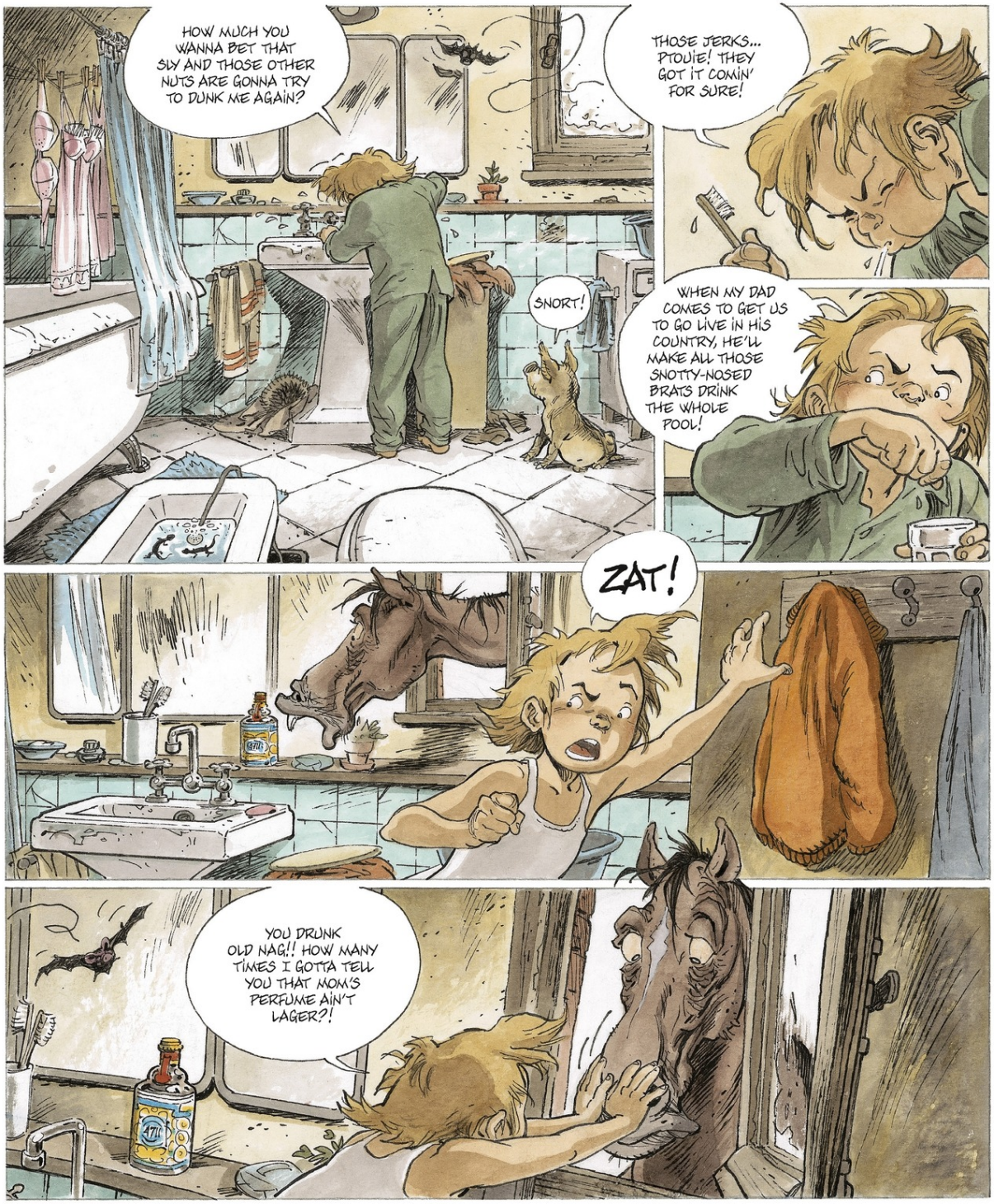
AT LEAST WHEN I BRING AN ANIMAL HOME, IT'S TO COOK FOR DINNER!

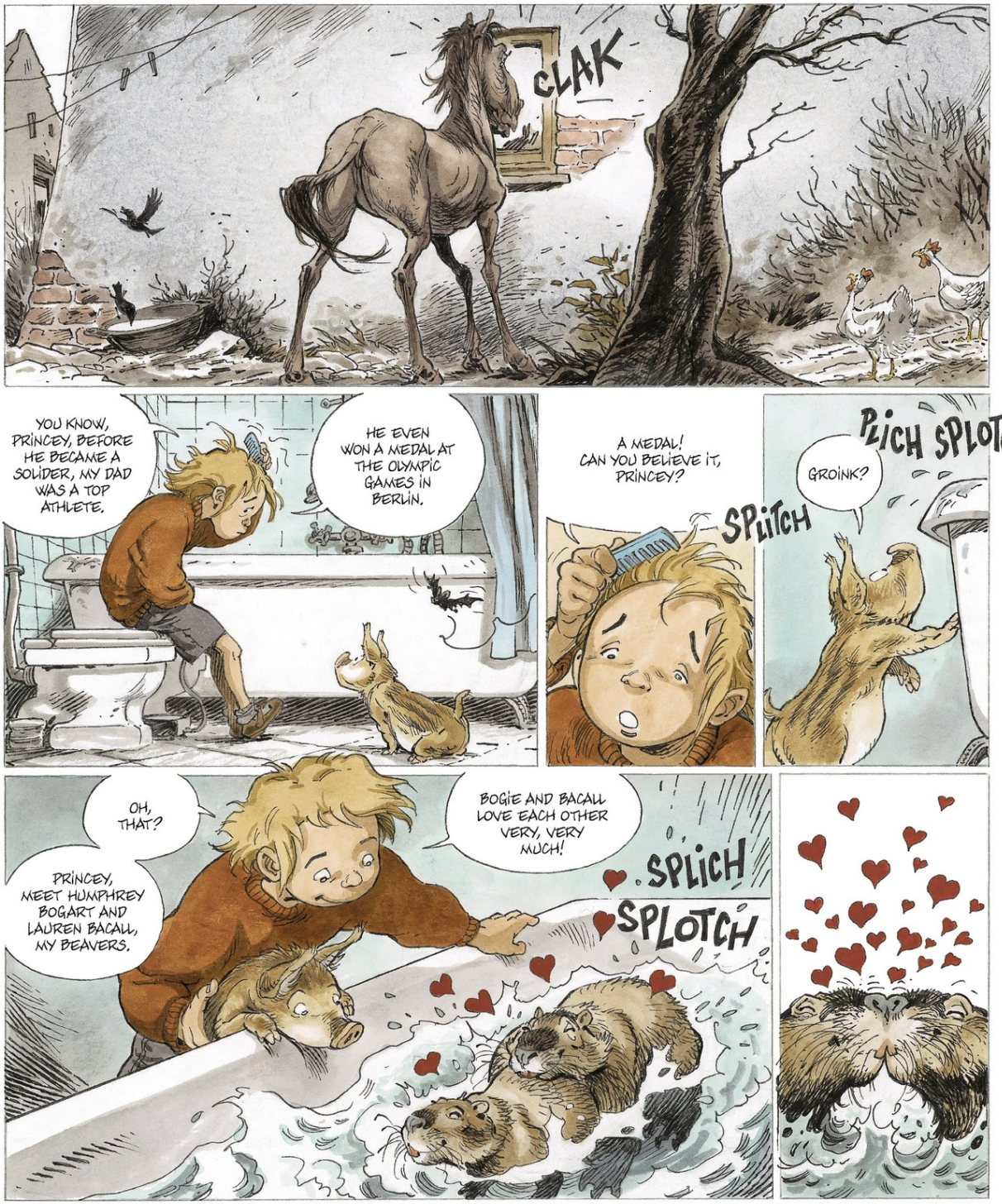
C'MON, PRINCEY! LET'S GET YOU OUTTA HERE FAST, BEFORE MY MEAN MOM FINDS A RECIPE FOR RUMP ROAST!
GROINK!

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT FOR?!

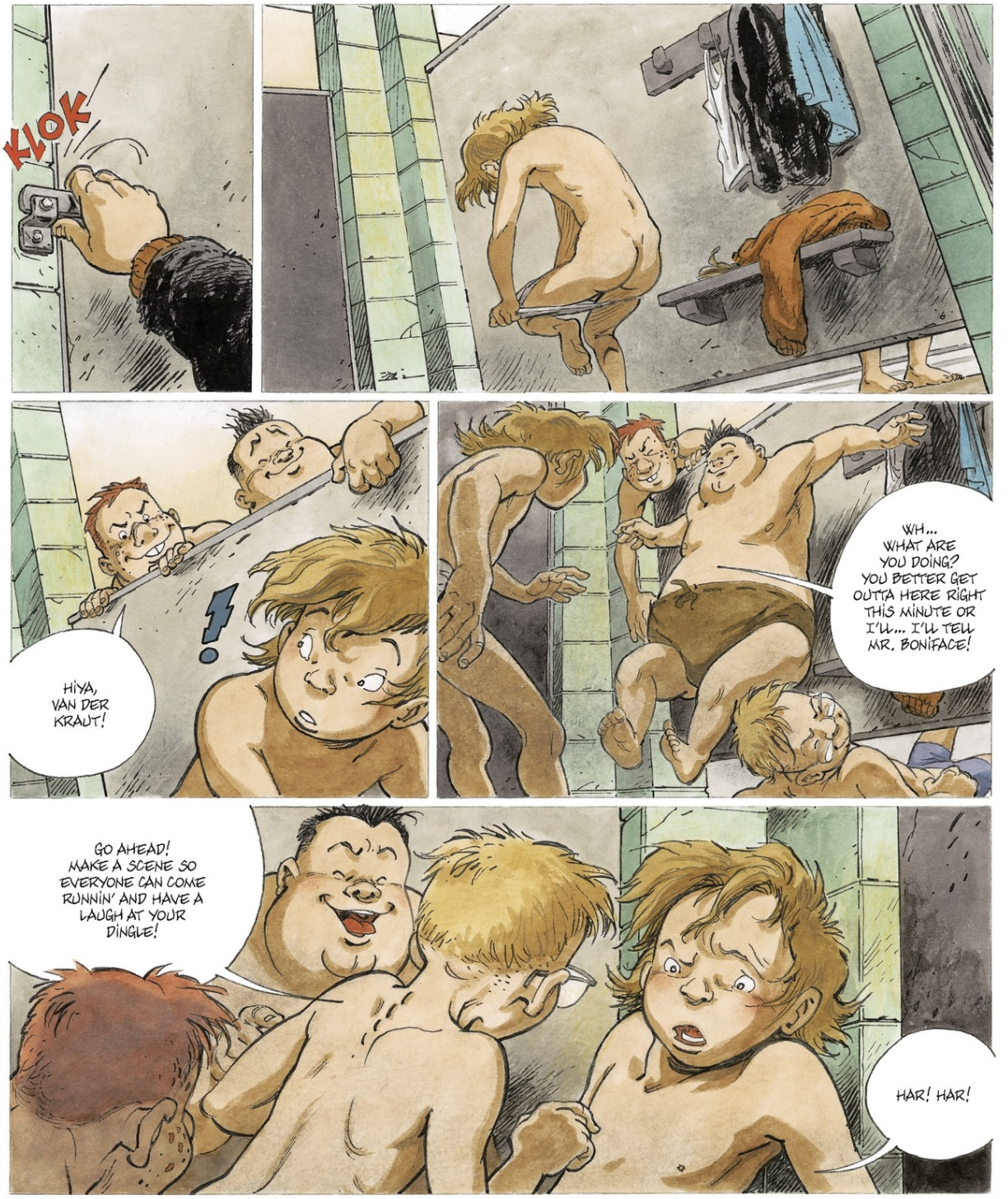
BEAT IT, HAIRBALL!
PRRRT
PRRT
PRRT
PFFFT! "NOAH'S ARK," SHE SAYS!
PRRT
MOM WAS TOTALLY EXAGGERATING, PRINCEY! DONTCHA THINK?
GROINK!

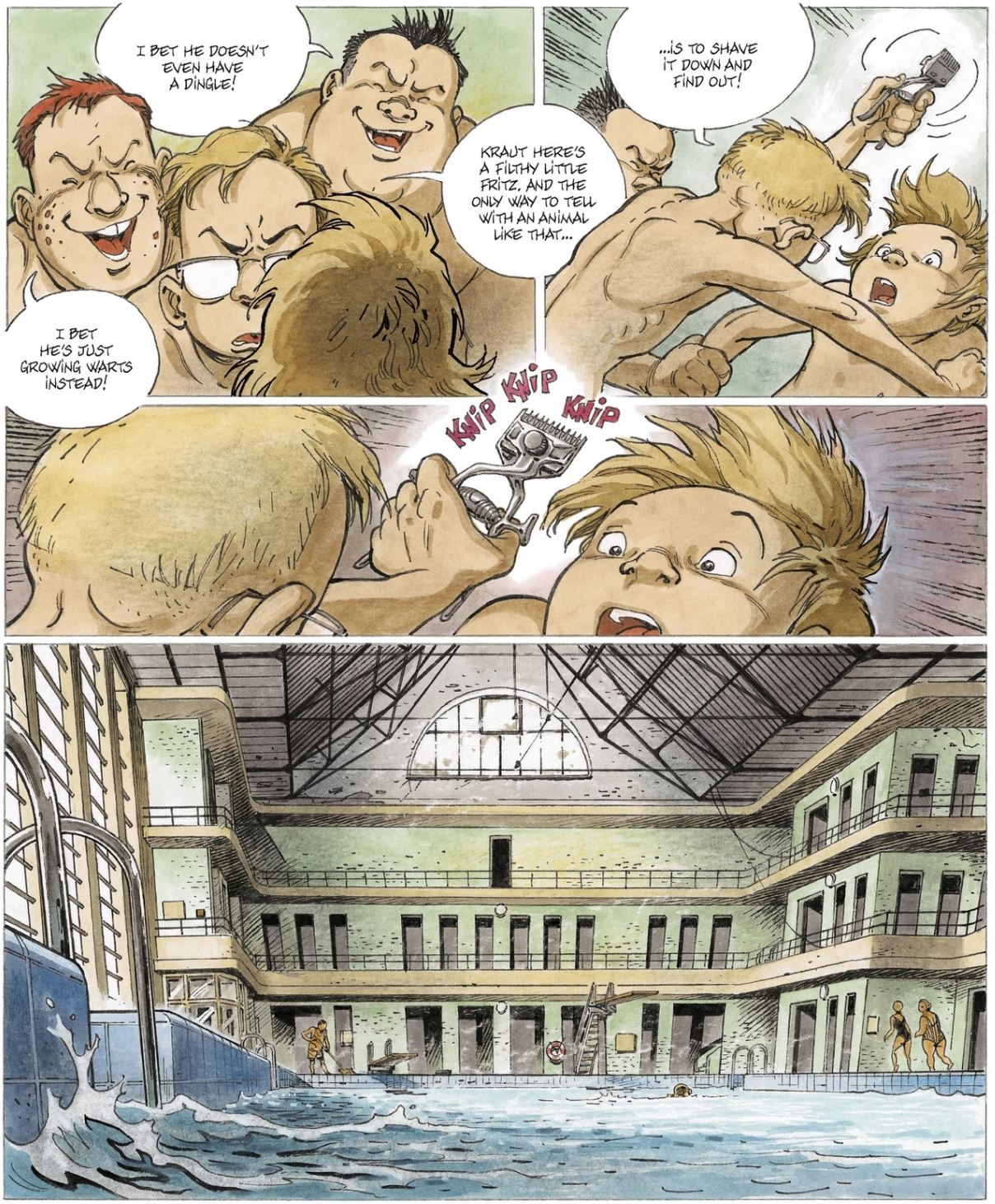

GLOUGLOURICOOOO
...GLOU!
HA HA HA! NO NEED TO PANIC, PRINCEY!
GROINK!
THAT'S JUST GARY GOBBLES.
HE WAKES ME UP FOR SCHOOL EVERY MOR--
GLOUGLOU RICOOOOOO
SCHOOL!
CRAP!
WE'VE GOT SWIMMING TODAY!


HOW MUCH YOU WANNA BET THAT SLY AND THOSE OTHER NUTS ARE GONNA TRY TO DUNK ME AGAIN?
SNORT!
THOSE JERKS... PTOUIE! THEY GOT IT COMIN' FOR SURE!
WHEN MY DAD COMES TO GET US TO GO LIVE IN HIS COUNTRY, HE'LL MAKE ALL THOSE SNOTTY-NOSED BRATS DRINK THE WHOLE POOL!
ZAT!
YOU DRUNK OLD NAG!! HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL YOU THAT MOM'S PERFUME AIN'T LAGER?!


CLAK
YOU KNOW, PRINCEY, BEFORE HE BECAME A SOLIDER, MY DAD WAS A TOP ATHLETE.
HE EVEN WON A MEDAL AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN BERLIN.
A MEDAL! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, PRINCEY?
SPLITCH
GROINK?
PLICH SPLOTCH
OH, THAT?
PRINCEY, MEET HUMPHREY BOGART AND LAUREN BACALL, MY BEAVERS.
BOGIE AND BACALL LOVE EACH OTHER VERY, VERY MUCH!
SPLICH
SPLOTCH

GROINK?


KLOK
HIYA, VAN DER KRAUT!
!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU BETTER GET OUTTA HERE RIGHT THIS MINUTE OR I'LL... I'LL TELL MR. BONIFACE!
GO AHEAD! MAKE A SCENE SO EVERYONE CAN COME RUNNIN' AND HAVE A LAUGH AT YOUR DINGLE!
HAR! HAR!


I BET HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A DINGLE!
KRAUT HERE'S A FILTHY LITTLE FRITZ, AND THE ONLY WAY TO TELL WITH AN ANIMAL LIKE THAT...
...IS TO SHAVE IT DOWN AND FIND OUT!
I BET HE'S JUST GROWING WARTS INSTEAD!
KWIP KWIP KWIP

IF I WERE YOU, LADIES, I WOULD STEP AWAY FROM THE WATER.
THE BEASTS ARE COMING.
?
THE... BEASTS?!
!!
THEM!
YAAAAAAA

NOK
YOU... YOU FILTHY KRAUT!
YOU OKAY, SLY?
SLY, YOU OKAY?
VLAM

FRANÇOIS VAN DEN KROOT! NO RUNNING BY THE POOL!
THE FLOOR IS SLIPPER--
NWWiiiiii
PLOUF!

WHAT GOT INTO HIM?
THAT NUTJOB ATTACKED SLY... UM, I MEAN, ALAIN STEINBERG, SIR! FOR NO REASON WHATSOEVER!
IT'S JUST THAT SON OF A NAZI'S NATURE, SIR!
MY... MY GLASSES! MY MOM'S GONNA KILL ME!
BAINS • BADEN
BAINS
WHY, HASN'T THAT KID EVER HEARD OF DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER?
HEE HEE!

CHAPEL HILL, THEY CALL IT! FEELS MORE LIKE GOLGOTHA!
A CAR!
WHO COULD THAT...?

MR. BONIFACE?! IS THAT YOU?
OH NO! DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO MY SON?!
NOTHING SERIOUS, DON'T WORRY! WELL, I MEAN... A LITTLE!
FRANÇOIS GOT INTO QUITE A FIGHT WITH ONE OF HIS CLASSMATES. AND NOT JUST ANY BOY: LITTLE ALAIN STEINBERG, TOP OF THE CLASS.
A FIGHT?!
FRANÇOIS GOT INTO A FIGHT?!
I'VE SCOURED THE NEIGHBORHOOD FOR HOURS AND TALKED TO SHOPKEEPERS AND PASSERSBY... AND NOBODY'S SEEN YOUR BOY.
BUT THAT'S WONDERFUL!
WHAT??

FRANÇOIS HAS BEEN BULLIED EVER SINCE HE WAS LITTLE. THE FACT THAT HE FINALLY TOUGHENED UP AND FOUGHT BACK IS GOOD NEWS, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
TELL THAT TO MRS. STEINBERG!
CARE TO COME IN FOR A DRINK?
COME... COME IN? TO YOUR HOUSE? BUT... MISS VAN DEN KROOT! PEOPLE MIGHT GET THE WRONG IDEA. YOUR... YOUR REPUTATION...
MY REPUTATION? I HAVEN'T HAD ANY REPUTATION WORTH SAVING SINCE SEPTEMBER OF '44.
WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE WITH A SHOE IN YOUR HAND, GETTING SOAKED!
YOU LOOK LIKE A HALF-DROWNED PRINCE CHARMING DESPERATELY SEEKING HIS CINDERELLA!

HRRKK

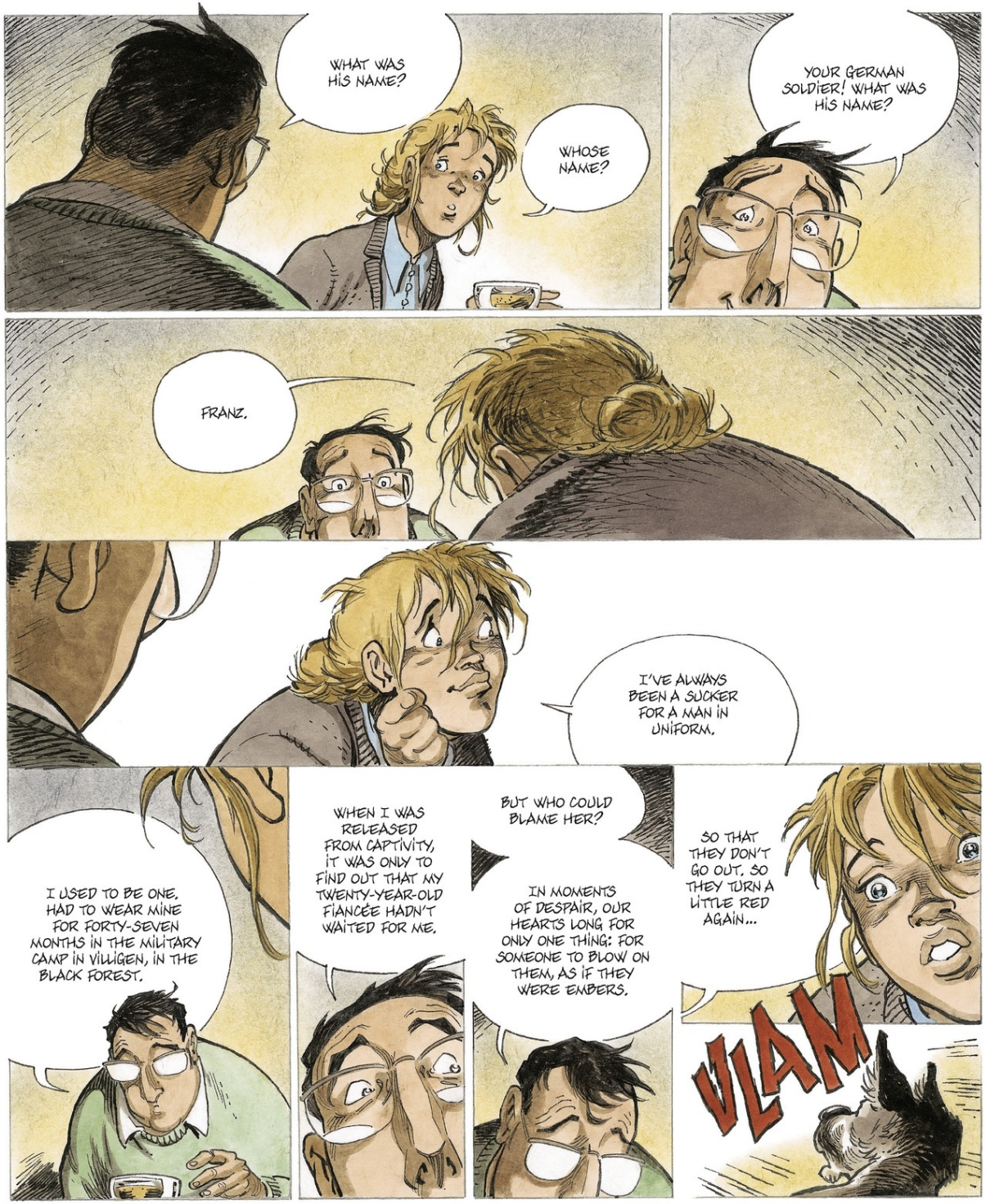
?
KRR
IS... IS SOMEONE THERE?

DOWN THE HALL AND TO THE RIGHT!
HAVE A SEAT AND I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU. THESE POOR ANIMALS ARE PROBABLY STARVING. USUALLY, IT'S FRANZ--ER, FRANÇOIS WHO FEEDS THEM...
IF TRIPOD'S BOTHERING YOU, JUST PUSH HIM AWAY.
WIF
WOF
WIF
WIF
SPEAKING OF WHICH... SHOULDN'T WE ALERT THE POLICE?
OH, DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT. MY BOY IS A BONA FIDE ROBINSON CRUSOE. I'M SURE HE'S FOUND HIMSELF A NICE DESERTED ISLAND UNTIL THIS STORM BLOWS OVER.
WOF
WIF

HE'LL COME HOME EVENTUALLY.
AND HE'LL BE DRAGGING SOME CRIPPLED, BLIND, AND VERMIN-INFESTED CREATURE WITH HIM, AS USUAL!
GROINK! GROINK!
DO YOU MIND IF I START WORKING ON DINNER WHILE WE CHAT? I PICKED UP SOME MUSSELS TODAY. THEY'RE FRANÇOIS'S FAVORITE, ESPECIALLY WITH BROWN SUGAR.
WITH BROWN SUGAR?! WELL I NEVER!
FAMILY RECIPE. BUT I ACTUALLY PUT IN MORE BEER THAN SUGAR.
WHY DON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER? WHERE THERE'S FOOD FOR TWO, THERE'S FOOD FOR THREE!
YOU KNOW, FRANÇOIS SHOULD BRING SOME OF THESE RESCUE ANIMALS INTO CLASS SOMEDAY AND DO A PRESENTATION...!

IT'S MORE LIKE AN ALGEBRA PROBLEM! "NOW YOU MUST CALCULATE THE ASTOUNDING AMOUNT OF FOOD THIS MENAGERIE EATS IN ONE WEEK'S TIME!"
I'M JUST GLAD I CAN BRING HOME SCRAPS FROM THE MARKET! SPOILED FRUIT, STALE BREAD, FISH HEADS, GIBLETS... ALL BUT THE KITCHEN SINK!
IS THAT RIGHT? YOU KNOW, I MIGHT NEED TO RESPECTFULLY DECLINE YOUR INVITATION TO DINNER...
HA HA HA
YOU HAVE A VERY LOVELY LAUGH, YOU KNOW. I'D LOVE TO RECORD IT SOMEDAY.
RECORD MY LAUGH?!
YES... HOW TO EXPLAIN? I'M WORKING ON A PROJECT THAT... WELL, IT WOULD BE EASIER IF YOU JUST CAME TO MY PLACE, SO I CAN SHOW YOU MY BIG APPARATUS.
...WHAT?
OH, I'M SO SORRY! THAT'S NOT WHAT I... I MEAN, IT'S NOT REALLY THAT BIG! AHEM! WHAT I MEANT TO SAY IS... WELL, I ALSO HAVE A PORTABLE MODEL, WHICH... I MEAN... OBVIOUSLY, IT'S STILL JUST A PROTOTYPE, BUT--
BEER OR COFFEE?

I'M SERIOUS! I WANTED TO BE A SCHOOLTEACHER TOO. BUT THEN... THE WAR! LIFE! EVERYTHING GOT IN THE WAY.


WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
WHOSE NAME?
YOUR GERMAN SOLDIER! WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
FRANZ.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SUCKER FOR A MAN IN UNIFORM.
I USED TO BE ONE. HAD TO WEAR MINE FOR FORTY-SEVEN MONTHS IN THE MILITARY CAMP IN VILLIGEN, IN THE BLACK FOREST.
WHEN I WAS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY, IT WAS ONLY TO FIND OUT THAT MY TWENTY-YEAR-OLD FIANCÉE HADN'T WAITED FOR ME.
BUT WHO COULD BLAME HER?
IN MOMENTS OF DESPAIR, OUR HEARTS LONG FOR ONLY ONE THING: FOR SOMEONE TO BLOW ON THEM, AS IF THEY WERE EMBERS.
SO THAT THEY DON'T GO OUT. SO THEY TURN A LITTLE RED AGAIN...
VLAM

FRANÇOIS !!
WHAT DID I TELL YOU, MR. BONIFACE? NOTHING LIKE MUSSELS IN BROWN SUGAR TO GET MY BOY HOME SAFE AND SOUND!
GROINK GROINK GROINK!

THAT REEKS! WHAT DID YOU BRING--
WHAT THE...!?!
DON'T TELL ME YOU BROUGHT HOME A SNAKE!! YOU KNOW DARN WELL THOSE THINGS SCARE THE HECK OUTTA ME!!
NO, IT'S NOT A SNAKE!
IS IT... DEAD?
GRRRR
YOU'VE REALLY DONE IT THIS TIME!

NO! HE'S STILL BREATHING!

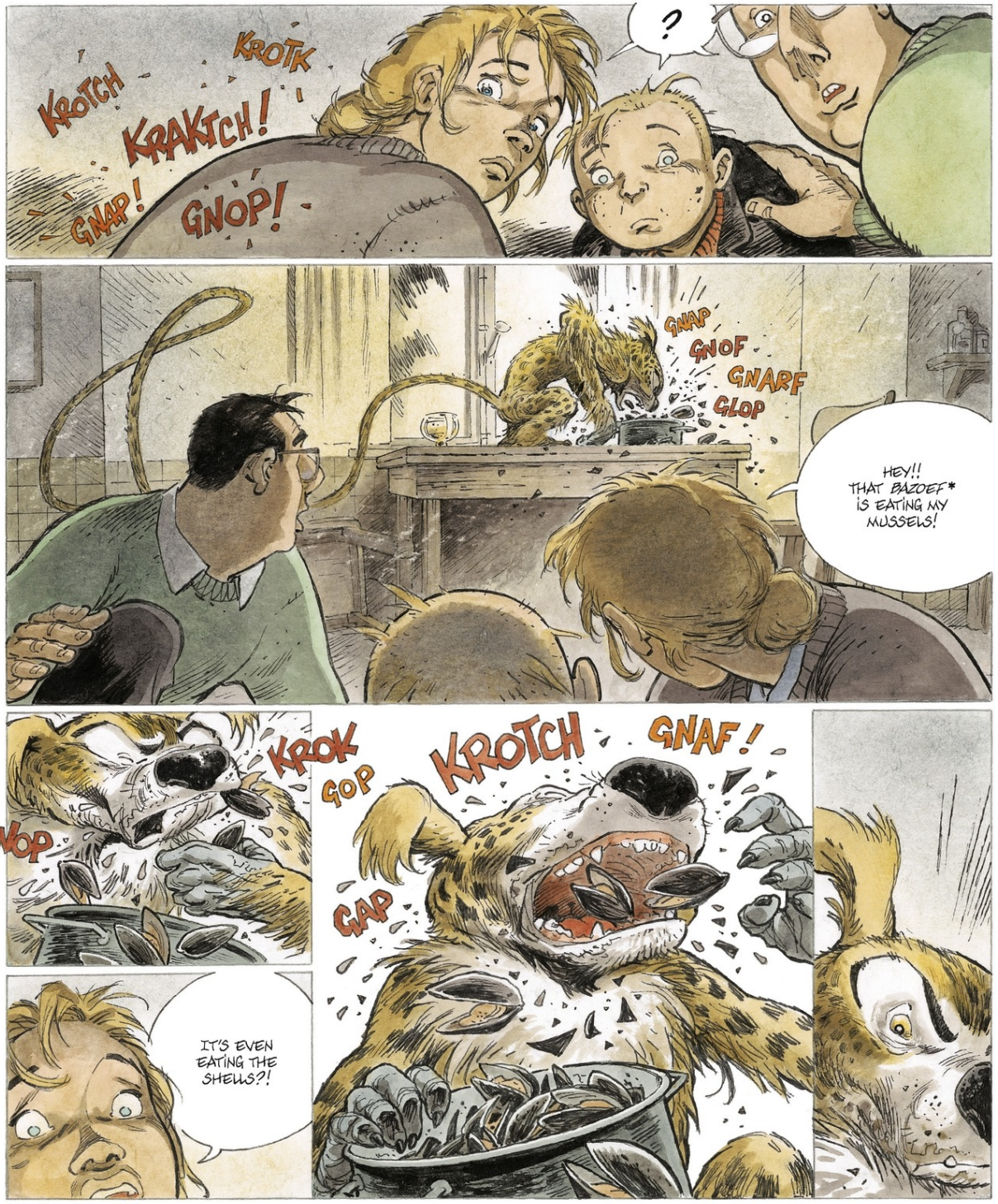
WHAT ON EARTH IS IT?

SOME SORT OF MISSHAPEN DOG?

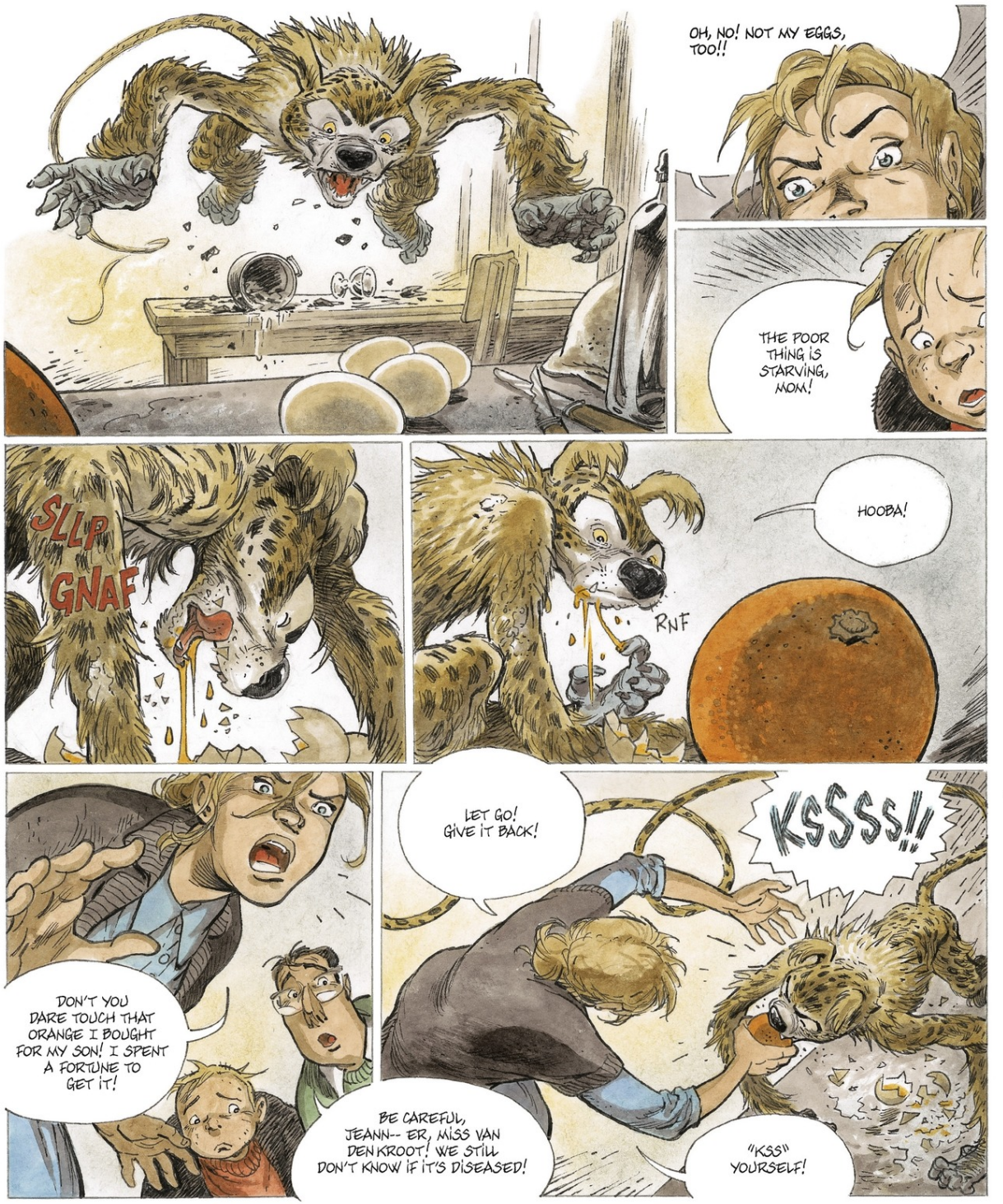
I'M LEANING MORE TOWARD A YOUNG LEOPARD, MAYBE. LOOK AT THOSE CLAWS!
OR A MONKEY? SOME MONKEYS HAVE REAL LONG TAILS.
A TAIL?! MORE LIKE A GARDEN HOSE, YOU MEAN! I BET THAT THING'S TWENTY FEET LONG, EASY!
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S A BEAR, A MONKEY, OR A LLAMA, FRANÇOIS! IT STINKS!
AND THAT'S COMING FROM A WOMAN WHO SELLS SEAFOOD FOR A LIVING!
LET'S JUST HOPE HE'S NOT CARRYING SOME KIND OF EXOTIC DISEASE, LIKE YELLOW FEVER OR A JUNGLE PLAGUE OR SOME SUCH THING!
SNF
SNF

I SURE DON'T WANNA WAKE UP LOOKING LIKE AN OVER-RIPE BANANA!
SNF
SNF
KREEEE!
MAYBE WE SHOULD GET A VET TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF--
I... I...
FRANZ!?
WHOA! EASY THERE, BIG GUY!

WELL, NO WONDER! HE'S SOAKED TO THE BONE!
KNOWING HIM, HE ALSO GAVE HIS SNACK TO THAT... THAT CAT-LIKE THING OF HIS THERE, INSTEAD OF EATING IT HIMSELF!
COME ON, LET'S SWITCH OUT THOSE WET CLOTHES AND GET SOME WARM DINNER IN YOU BEFORE YOU GET SICK.
OH MY GOD!
HIS HAIR! WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS HAIR?!
I'M STARTING TO THINK THE PRIMARY VICTIM IN THE BRAWL AT THE POOL WASN'T THE ONE I WAS LED TO BELIEVE.
WHO DID THIS?
NAMES, MR. BONIFACE! I WANT NAMES!
WELL, AS SURPRISING AS THIS MAY SOUND, I'M PRETTY SURE THAT--
BLONK


KROTCH
KROTK
KRAKTCH!
GNAP!
GNOP!
?
GNAP
GNOF
GNARF
GLOP
HEY!! THAT BAZOEF* IS EATING MY MUSSELS!
GNOP
KROK
GOP
KROTCH
GNAF!
GAP
IT'S EVEN EATING THE SHELLS?!

* GLUTTON


OH, NO! NOT MY EGGS, TOO!!
THE POOR THING IS STARVING, MOM!
SLLP
GNAF
RNF
HOOBA!
DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH THAT ORANGE I BOUGHT FOR MY SON! I SPENT A FORTUNE TO GET IT!
LET GO! GIVE IT BACK!
KSSSs!!
BE CAREFUL, JEANN-- ER, MISS VAN DEN KROOT! WE STILL DON'T KNOW IF IT'S DISEASED!
"KSS" YOURSELF!

YSSiiiiiiii
HEY, LONG-TAILED BUDDY! OVER HERE!
LOOK WHAT I GOT FOR YOU!
I BET YOU LIKE SWEETS TOO, DON'T YOU?
?
SNF
SNF
SNF
SNF
SNF
SNF
WHOA!
HAP
AH! NO ONE CAN RESIST A LITTLE CANDY!
GNAP
NIAM
GAP

HA HA! WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT BIG PUPPY!
POOR THING!
TOFFEE IS LIKE LIFE: YOU HAVE TO LET IT MELT IN YOUR MOUTH, NOT BITE RIGHT DOWN!
YOU WANT ANOTHER ONE, LONGTAIL?
GROINK GROINK!
LONGTAIL!
HEEL, LONGTAIL!
GROINK GROINK GROINK!
I HAVE TO SAY: YOUR SON REALLY HAS A WAY WITH ANIMALS!
YOU'RE TELLING ME! SIGH.

HE'S GONNA NEED AT LEAST THREE BATHS! HE'S FILTHIER THAN A CHIMNEY SWEEP DUNKED IN THE SENNE!*
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I BOTHERED TO HAVE THIS TUB PUT IN. IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN EVER ENJOY IT.
AHEM! I HAVE A BATHTUB AT MY PLACE IF YOU WANT... ER... WHAT I MEAN IS...
CRAP! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH ALL THIS TAIL?!
UNLESS...

*A SMALL RIVER THAT FLOWS THROUGH BRUSSELS, LONG KNOWN FOR ITS POLLUTION.

WAAAAH!
OOF! SEE, MOM? THAT WASN'T SO BAD!
ZZZZ
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING AND THERE'S NO WAY THAT WILD ANIMAL IS SLEEPING IN YOUR ROOM!
DO YOU HEAR ME, FRANÇOIS?

RZZZ

G'NIGHT, LONGTAIL!

WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS AGAIN SOMETIME. ER, THE BROWN SUGAR MUSSELS, I MEAN!
YES, I KNEW WHAT YOU MEANT-- I WOULDN'T WANT TO MISS IT!
GOOD NIGHT, BONI-- UM, MR. BONIFACE! THANKS AGAIN FOR EVERYTHING.
DON'T MENTION IT! THE MAIN THING IS THAT FRANÇOIS IS ALL RIGHT.
SO YOU'LL COME, THEN?
COME WHERE?
TO MY PLACE, SO I CAN RECORD YOUR LAUGH. WILL YOU COME?
TO RECORD...?
HAHAHA
WITH ALL THE PANDEMONIUM, I FORGOT ABOUT THAT.
YES, OF COURSE I'LL COME...
...TO SEE THAT BIG APPARATUS OF YOURS, RIGHT?
I WOULDN'T WANT TO MISS IT.

HAHAHA!
HAHEE-HAHA!
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD! IMAGINE LIVING WITH THAT CONSTANT LAUGHTER!
I'M GOING, SIR.
HAHEE-HAHA!
I'M GOING, SIR!
KLAK
HUH? OH! YES, THANK YOU, PAULETTE.
WAIT... YOU DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH THE OMELET I MADE!
OH, UM... WELL I WAS FEEDING IN THE LAUGHS I RECORDED THE OTHER NIGHT AT THE THEATER DURING LE MARIAGE DE MADEMOISELLE BEULEMANS, AND...

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT PLANNING ON GOING TO BED ON AN EMPTY STOMACH!
SPEAKING OF--SLURP!--WEDDINGS, PAULETTE... DO YOU THINK I'M STILL YOUNG ENOUGH TO GET MARRIED AND RAISE A CHILD?
GET MARRIED!?
OF COURSE YOU ARE, MR. BONIFACE!
IN FACT, YOU'RE THE PERFECT AGE FOR MARRYING!
NOW, IF I WERE YOU, I'D PICK SOME NICE, RELIABLE GIRL WHO'S BEEN AROUND FOR A WHILE.
NOT ONE OF THOSE FLIGHTY YOUNG THINGS, WHAT WITH THEIR DRINKING AND SHORT SKIRTS AND DANCING AWAY AT ALL HOURS OF THE NIGHT IN JAZZ CLUBS!
WHAT YOU NEED IS A WOMAN WHO CAN KEEP YOUR HOUSE NICE AND NEAT AND COOK YOU TASTY MEALS WHILE YOU GRADE YOUR STUDENTS' PAPERS.
I ALREADY HAVE THAT RARE PEARL, PAULETTE: YOU!

DON'T WORRY, PAULETTE! I WAS KIDDING!
I'M... I'M GOING, SIR!
RIGHT! GOOD NIGHT, PAULETTE! AND THANK YOU.
"WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS AGAIN..."!

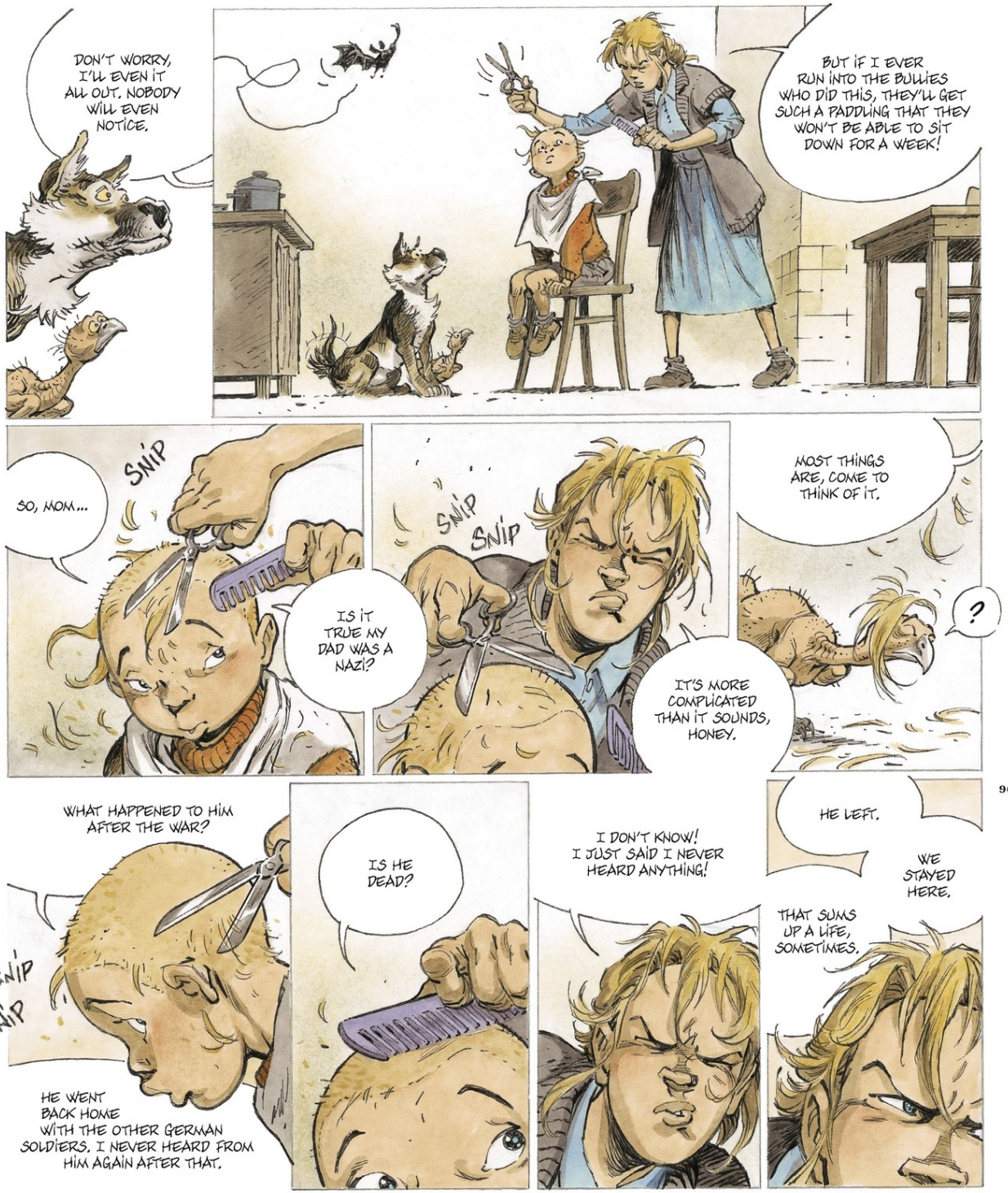
CONTROL YOURSELF, LITTLE ONE!
TOMORROW'S A NEW DAY AND YOU'VE EARNED A BIT OF SLEEP!
KLIK

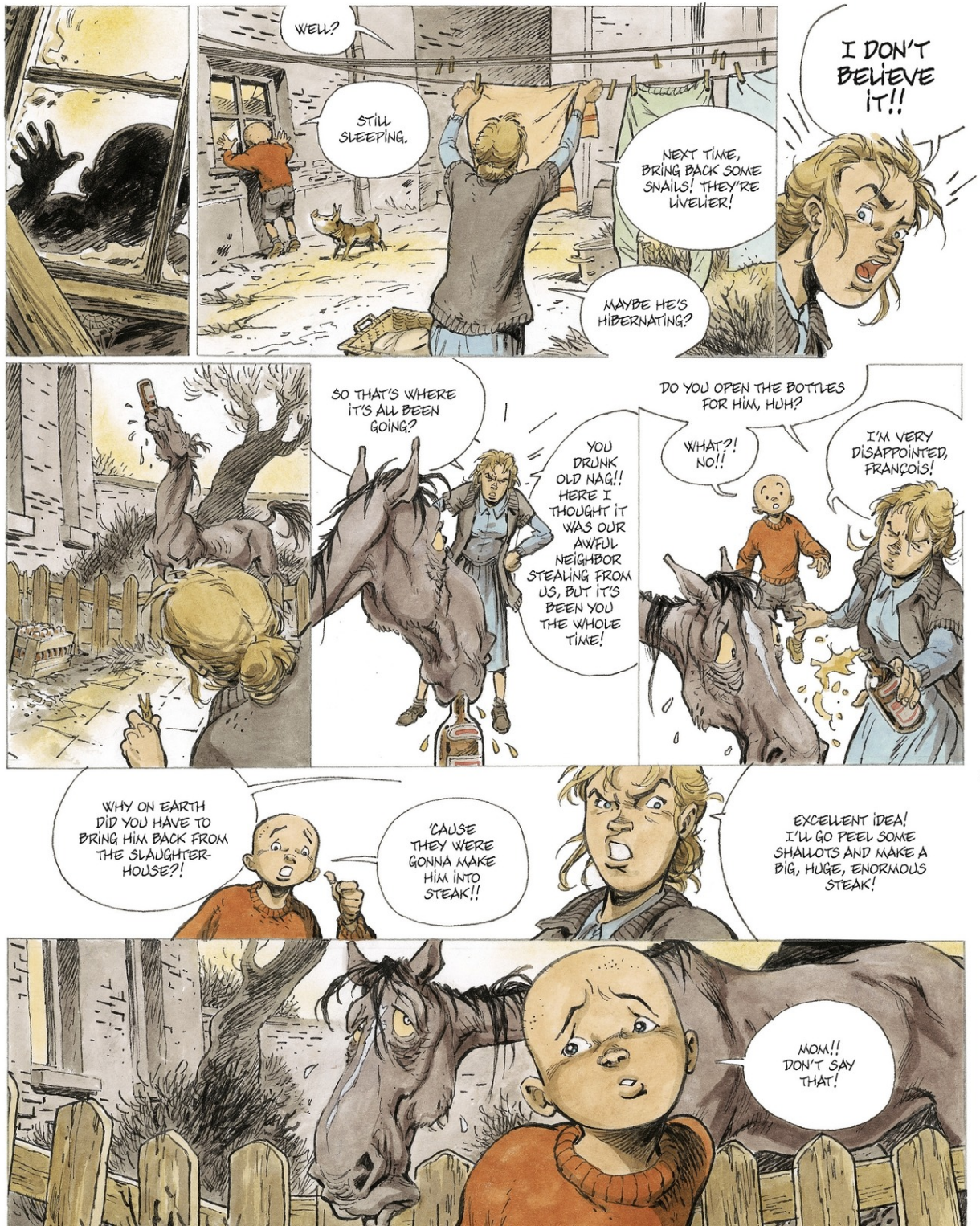
XI.
OLYMPIADE
BERLIN
1936
SPIELE · BER

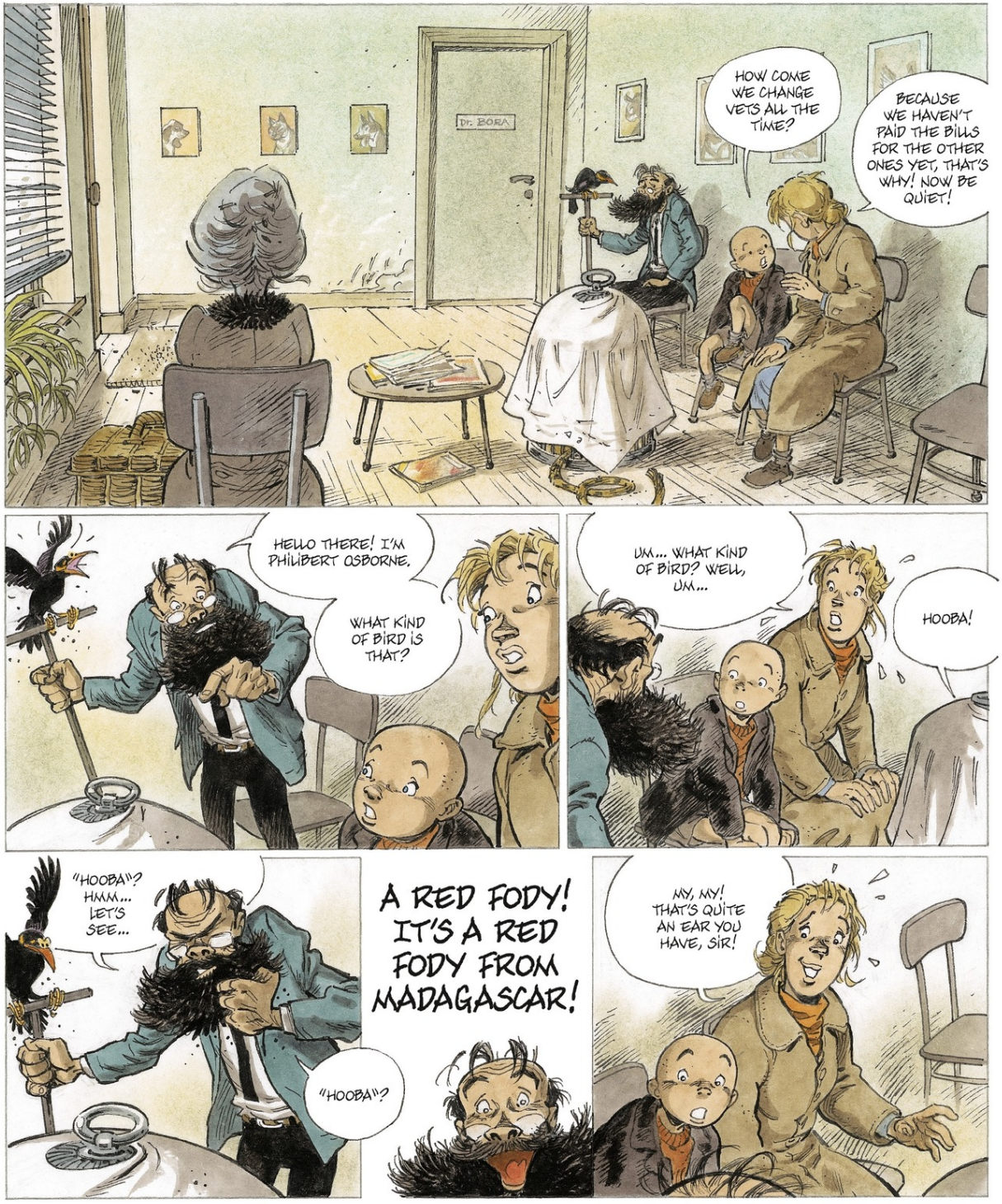
GLOUGLOURICOOO
HA HA! EASY, PRINCEY!
KREEEEE!
GLOU...
SHUT UP, GARY GOBBLES! YOU'LL WAKE UP...
LONGTAIL?!
MOM! MOM!
LONGTAIL RAN AWAY!
MMH?

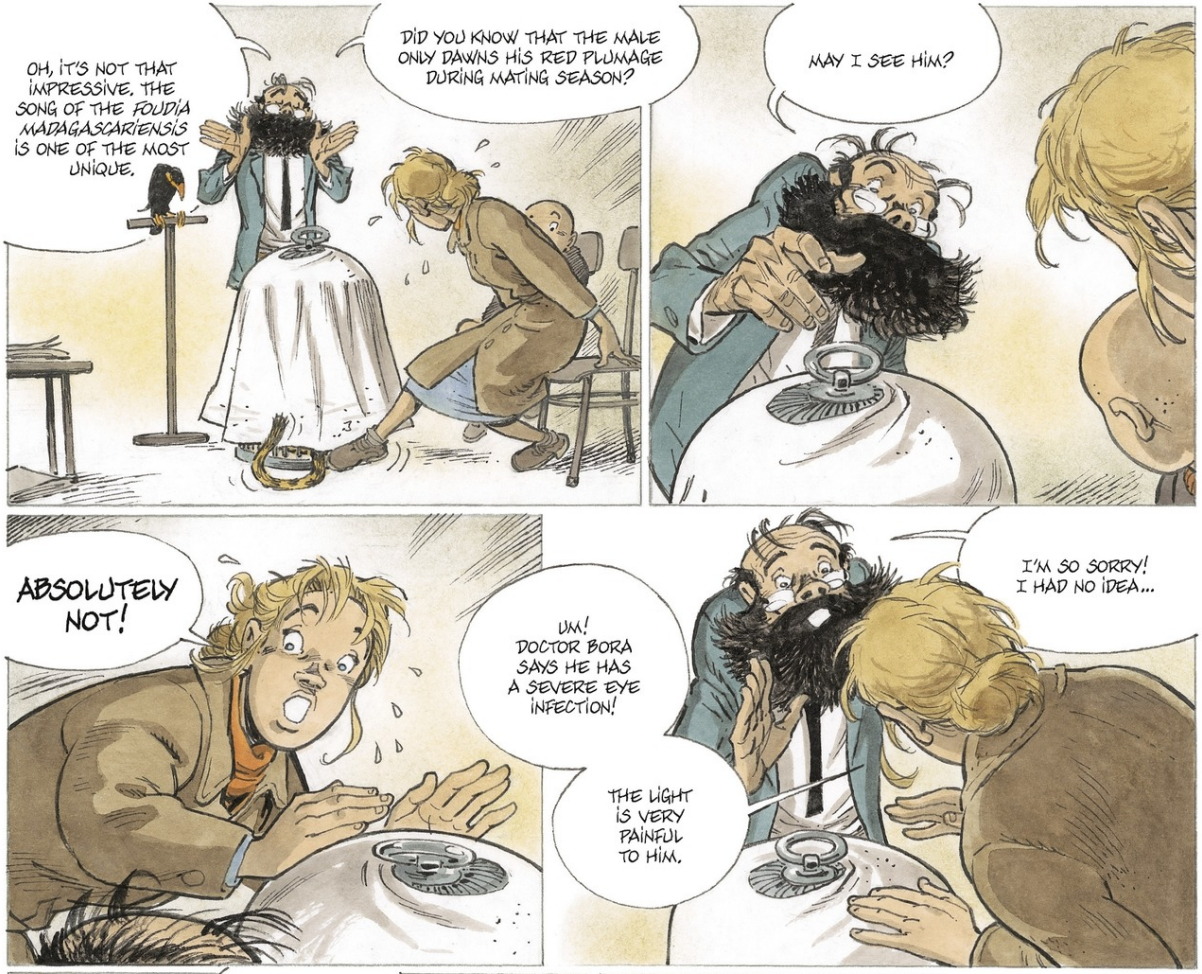
YAAAWN!
LOOKS LIKE PRINCEY SMELLS SOMETHING!
SNF
SNF
SNF
?
SNF
SNF
SNF
GROINK GROINK!
GROINK!
WHERE COULD THAT CREATURE HAVE GONE TO?
THERE!

A NEST?! SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT MYSTERY CRITTER OF YOURS IS GONNA BE A HANDFUL.
GROINK!

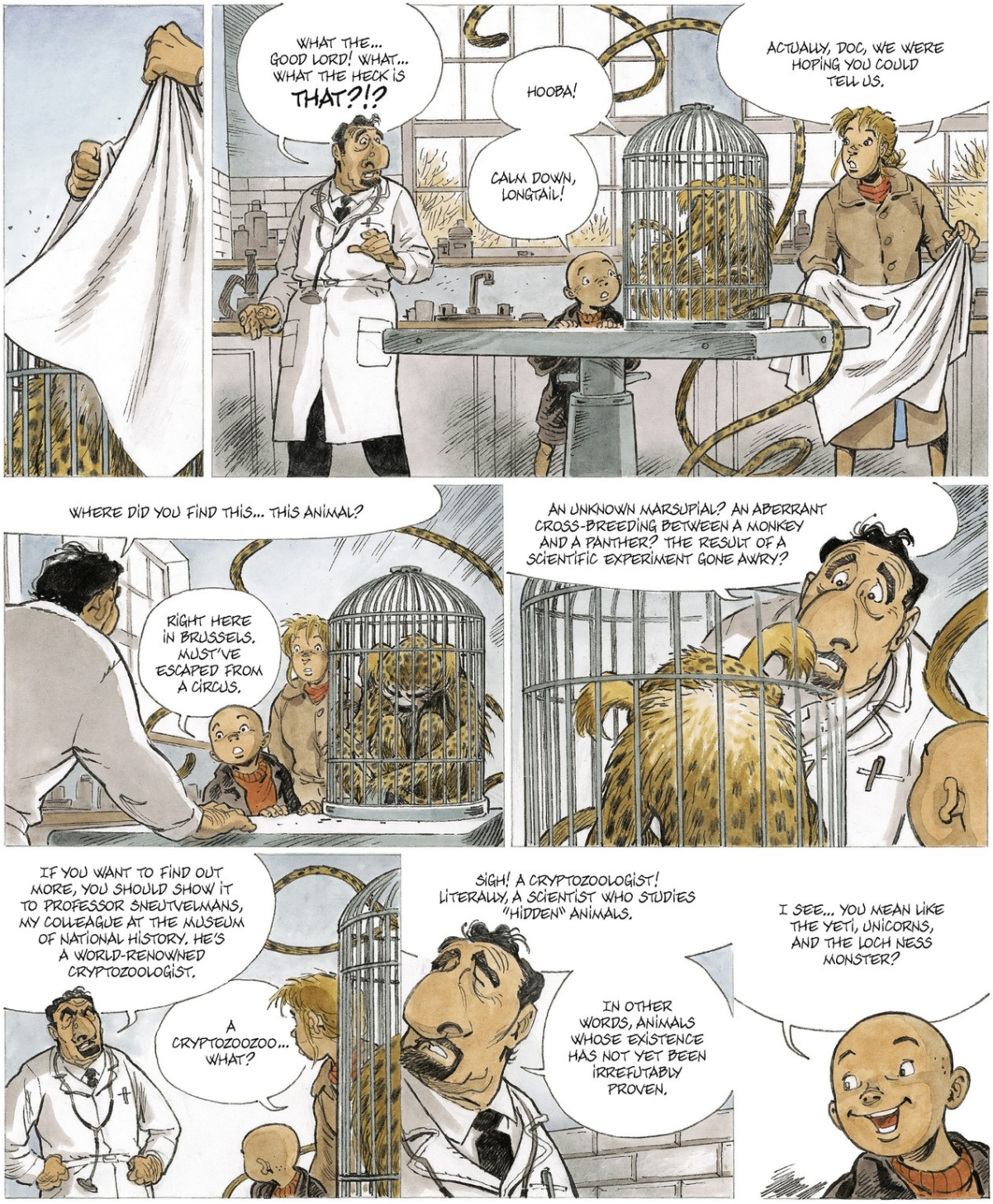

DON'T WORRY, I'LL EVEN IT ALL OUT. NOBODY WILL EVEN NOTICE.
BUT IF I EVER RUN INTO THE BULLIES WHO DID THIS, THEY'LL GET SUCH A PADDLING THAT THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN FOR A WEEK!
SNIP
SO, MOM...
IS IT TRUE MY DAD WAS A NAZI?
SNIP
SNIP
IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN IT SOUNDS, HONEY.
MOST THINGS ARE, COME TO THINK OF IT.
?
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTER THE WAR?
SNIP
SNIP
HE WENT BACK HOME WITH THE OTHER GERMAN SOLDIERS. I NEVER HEARD FROM HIM AGAIN AFTER THAT.
IS HE DEAD?
I DON'T KNOW! I JUST SAID I NEVER HEARD ANYTHING!
HE LEFT.
WE STAYED HERE.
THAT SUMS UP A LIFE, SOMETIMES.


WELL?
STILL SLEEPING.
NEXT TIME, BRING BACK SOME SNAILS! THEY'RE LIVELIER!
MAYBE HE'S HIBERNATING?
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!
SO THAT'S WHERE IT'S ALL BEEN GOING?
YOU DRUNK OLD NAG!! HERE I THOUGHT IT WAS OUR AWFUL NEIGHBOR STEALING FROM US, BUT IT'S BEEN YOU THE WHOLE TIME!
DO YOU OPEN THE BOTTLES FOR HIM, HUH?
WHAT?! NO!!
I'M VERY DISAPPOINTED, FRANÇOIS!
WHY ON EARTH DID YOU HAVE TO BRING HIM BACK FROM THE SLAUGHTER-HOUSE?!
'CAUSE THEY WERE GONNA MAKE HIM INTO STEAK!!
EXCELLENT IDEA! I'LL GO PEEL SOME SHALLOTS AND MAKE A BIG, HUGE, ENORMOUS STEAK!
MOM!! DON'T SAY THAT!


Dr. BORA
HOW COME WE CHANGE VETS ALL THE TIME?
BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T PAID THE BILLS FOR THE OTHER ONES YET, THAT'S WHY! NOW BE QUIET!
HELLO THERE! I'M PHILIBERT OSBORNE.
WHAT KIND OF BIRD IS THAT?
UM... WHAT KIND OF BIRD? WELL, UM...
HOOBA!
"HOOBA"? HMM... LET'S SEE...
"HOOBA"?
A RED FODY! IT'S A RED FODY FROM MADAGASCAR!
MY, MY! THAT'S QUITE AN EAR YOU HAVE, SIR!


OH, IT'S NOT THAT IMPRESSIVE. THE SONG OF THE *FOUDIA MADAGASCARIENSIS* IS ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE.
DID YOU KNOW THAT THE MALE ONLY DAWNS HIS RED PLUMAGE DURING MATING SEASON?
MAY I SEE HIM?
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
UM! DOCTOR BORA SAYS HE HAS A SEVERE EYE INFECTION!
THE LIGHT IS VERY PAINFUL TO HIM.
I'M SO SORRY! I HAD NO IDEA...
WHAT'S YOURS? A MYNA?
A COMMON HILL MYNA, OR *GRACULA RELIGIOSA*, A PASSERINE FROM THE STURNIDAE FAMILY.

HE SURE CAN WHISTLE!
SIGH! THAT'S WHY I CAME TO SEE THE VET: THIS BIRD OF ILL OMEN WON'T STOP SINGING CHOPIN'S FUNERAL MARCH AT ME, DAY IN AND DAY OUT!
VERY UPLIFTING, AT MY AGE!
WHY DON'T YOU SING SOMETHING ELSE TO HIM?
WHAT?
YOU KNOW, SOMETHING FUN! LIKE CHILDREN'S SONGS, OR... OR A LULLABY!
GREAT BIRD BEAKS! HOW DID I NOT THINK OF THAT MYSELF?
YOUNG MAN, YOU JUST SAVED ME THE COST OF A CONSULTATION... AND A BOUT OF DEPRESSION!
HOOBA!
YOU'RE NEXT, MR. OSB--?!
NO, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE NEXT!

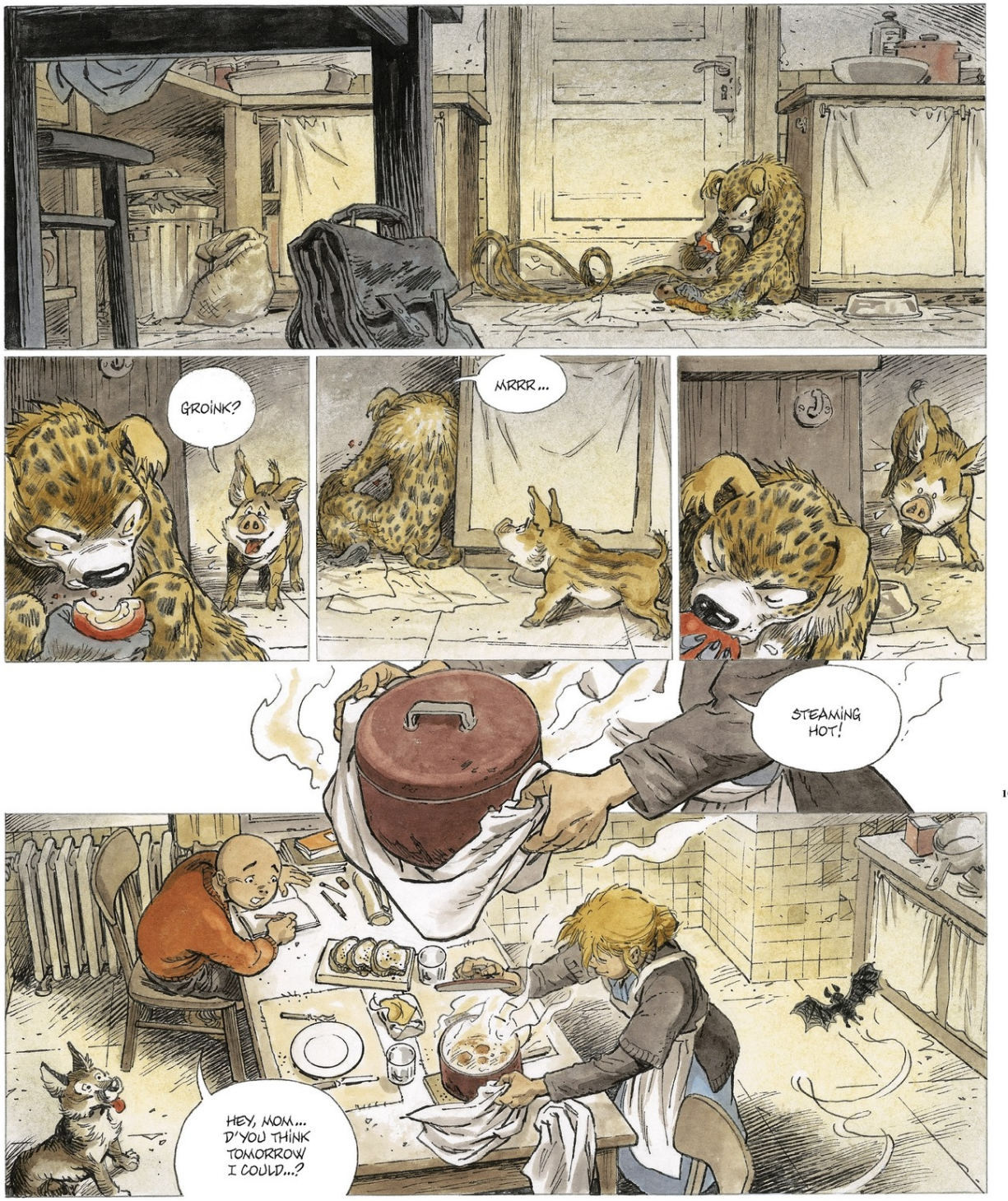

WHAT THE... GOOD LORD! WHAT... WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!?
HOOBA!
CALM DOWN, LONGTAIL!
ACTUALLY, DOC, WE WERE HOPING YOU COULD TELL US.
WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS... THIS ANIMAL?
RIGHT HERE IN BRUSSELS. MUST'VE ESCAPED FROM A CIRCUS.
AN UNKNOWN MARSUPIAL? AN ABERRANT CROSS-BREEDING BETWEEN A MONKEY AND A PANTHER? THE RESULT OF A SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT GONE AWRY?
IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE, YOU SHOULD SHOW IT TO PROFESSOR SNEUTVELMANS, MY COLLEAGUE AT THE MUSEUM OF NATIONAL HISTORY. HE'S A WORLD-RENOWNED CRYPTOZOOLOGIST.
A CRYPTOZOOZOO... WHAT?
SIGH! A CRYPTOZOOLOGIST! LITERALLY, A SCIENTIST WHO STUDIES "HIDDEN" ANIMALS.
IN OTHER WORDS, ANIMALS WHOSE EXISTENCE HAS NOT YET BEEN IRREFUTABLY PROVEN.
I SEE... YOU MEAN LIKE THE YETI, UNICORNS, AND THE LOCH NESS MONSTER?

OH, NO! THE EXISTENCE OF THE LOCH NESS MONSTER HAS BEEN SCIENTIFICALLY VOUCHED FOR! BY PROFESSOR SNEUTVELMANS HIMSELF.
HE'S EVEN GIVING A LECTURE SERIES ON THE SUBJECT IN LONDON AT THE MOMENT.
I'LL TAKE SOME PICTURES OF THIS UNUSUAL SPECIMEN AND SEND THE SLIDES TO HIM THERE.
FLASH
KSSIIII
LOOKS LIKE A BITER, THIS ONE!
I'LL GIVE HIM A RABIES SHOT AFTERWARDS, JUST TO BE SAFE.
GROO
FLASH
STOP! CAN'T YOU SEE IT'S UPSETTING HIM!
JUST ONE MORE, TO SHOW MY EMINENT COLLEAGUE THE EXTENT OF HYPERTROPHY IN THIS ANIMAL'S TAIL.
SKII
FLASH

KSIIII
KRASH
UGH! MISS VAN DEN KROOT, I'LL ASK YOU TO PLEASE LEAVE MY OFFICE NOW AND TO TAKE THAT... ABERRATION OF NATURE WITH YOU!
THE WARTS OF MRS. BONNEWINE'S CAT REQUIRE MY ATTENTION!
HAHA! THAT SNOOTY OLD VET WASN'T ACTING SO TOUGH AFTER YOUR CRITTER HERE SHOWED HIM WHAT'S WHAT!
PFF! "ABERRATION OF NATURE" YOURSELF!

ARRET - HALTE
CINZANO
23
MIR
MIR
A LA BOULE D'OR
HAECHT
JAVEL LACROIX
HOOBA!

IT'S-- IT'S A RED FODY!
FROM MADAGASCAR.


GROINK?
MRRR...
STEAMING HOT!
HEY, MOM... D'YOU THINK TOMORROW I COULD...?

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO ASK!
AND YES, YOU CAN BRING YOUR LATEST... "FIND" TO SCHOOL!
AS LONG AS MR. BONIFACE IS OKAY WITH IT, OF COURSE!
GROINK! GROINK!
LKKR!
WELL, I DID DREAM OF HAVING A BIG FAMILY. CLOSE ENOUGH, I GUESS.

CAN WE PET HIM?
WHAT'S HIS NAME?
IS HE DANGEROUS?
HOW OLD IS HE?
WHAT'S HE WEIGH?
CAN I PLAY WITH HIM AT RECESS?
CAN I HAVE A CHOCOLATE TOO?

ONE QUESTION AT A TIME, CHILDREN!
HOW LONG'S HIS TAIL?
TWENTY-EIGHT FEET.
WOW!
THAT AIN'T A TAIL! THAT'S AN EXTENSION CORD!
HAP!
WHAT DOES HE NEED A TAIL THAT LONG FOR?
PLENTY OF THINGS, I BET.
IS IT MALE OR FEMALE?

THAT'S EASY TO CHECK: IF IT DOES THE DISHES, IT'S A FEMALE. IF IT SITS AROUND AND READS THE PAPER, IT'S A MALE.
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH!
EVERYONE TAKE OUT A SHEET OF PAPER AND DRAW ME A PICTURE OF THE ANIMAL THAT FRANÇOIS HAS BROUGHT FOR US.
CAN WE USE TWO SHEETS, SIR?
ON ACCOUNT OF THE TAIL.
DANG! I NEED A YELLOW CRAYON!
UM... FRANÇOIS, MAY I GIVE YOU THIS FOR YOUR MOTHER?
IS IT FOR THE NEXT PARENT-TEACHER MEETING?
UH... YES! EXACTLY! THE NEXT PARENT-TEACHER MEETING...

HOOBA?
PLOK
PLOK
MY... MY ATTENDANCE BOOK!!
LONGTAIL! YOU CAN'T POOP ON THERE!
EWWWWW!!
THAT STINKS!!
WELL AT LEAST NOW WE KNOW IT'S A MALE! AIN'T THAT RIGHT, SLY?

GOOD THING I HAVE A BROWN CRAYON...
HOLD ON TIGHT TO HIS LEASH, SIR! I'LL GO GET SOME TOILET PAPER!
WHOA, BOY!! WATCH YOURSELF!
FIRST, A COOKING CLASS TO TEACH THEM HOW TO MAKE MAYONNAISE!
SECOND, A GUEST APPEARANCE BY THAT ARTIST WHO DRAWS MICE... WHAT WAS HIS NAME AGAIN?
THEN THOSE CHAPLIN FILMS!
AND NOW A MONKEY!!
WHAT WILL IT BE NEXT TIME, MR. BONIFACE? A DINOSAUR?
A DINOSAUR?!
CAN YOU IMAGINE? AN IGUANODON AT SCHOOL!?
LIKE THE ONE FOUND IN BERNISSART!*
OR A PTERODACTYL!!

*SOUTHWESTERN BELGIUM.

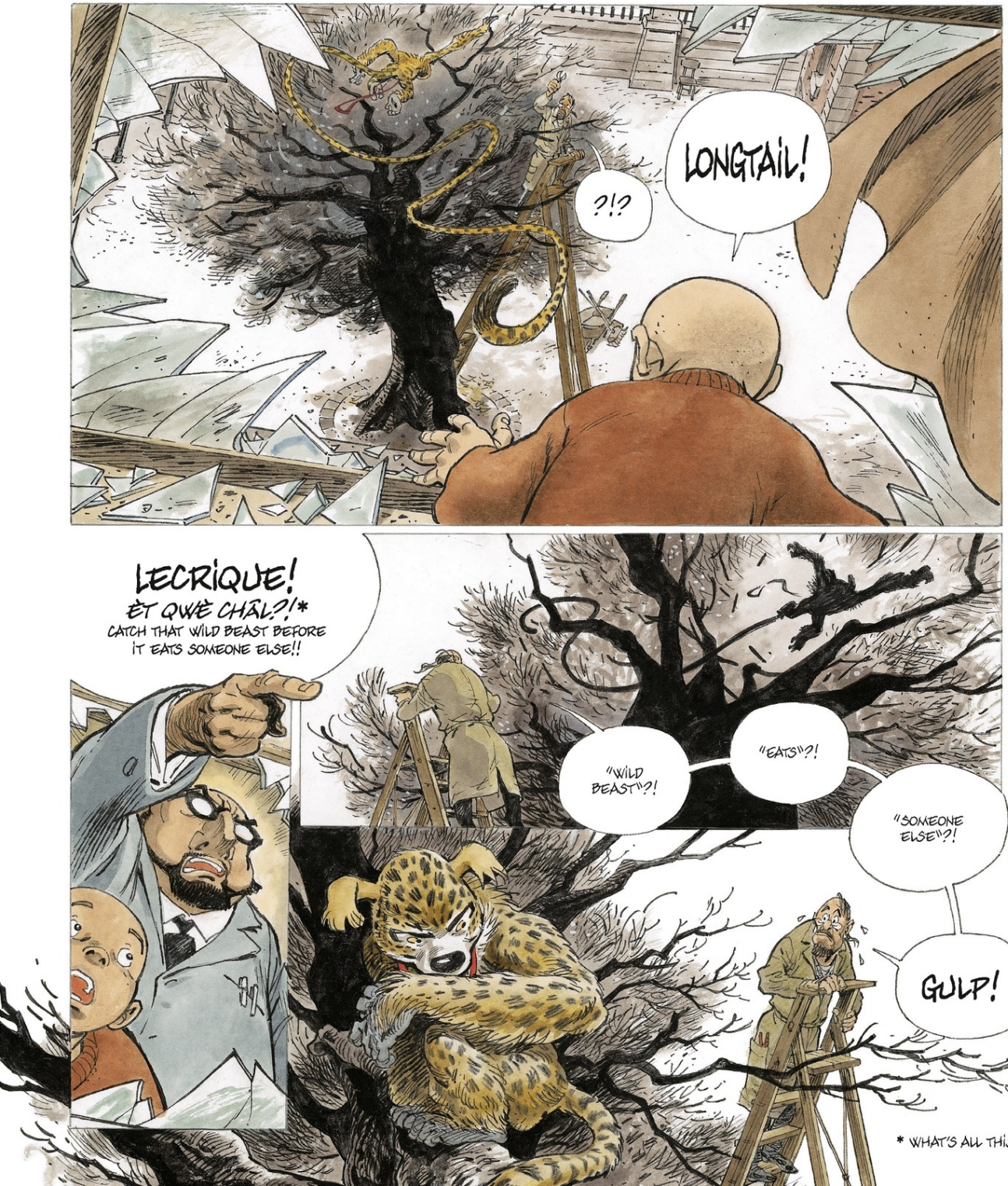
IT WAS A RHETORICAL DEVICE!
WELL, THAT'S THE PROBLEM RIGHT THERE: EVERYTHING YOU ADULTS TAKE AS A STUPID JOKE IS JUST WHAT WE LIKE!
SIGH!
PATHETIC! AND OF COURSE NO ONE THOUGHT TO OPEN A WINDOW TO CLEAR THE SMELL...
AAAHH!
CAREFUL, SIR...! THE... THE BEAST!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!

GGH!
I'VE GOT HIM!!

WELL DONE, YOUNG ALAIN! WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LET GO!
EXACTLY RIGHT! WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LET GO!
WOOHOOO! JUST LIKE A RODEO!
HAR HAR! PRETTY SOON THE TAIL ON THAT THING'S GONNA BE A FULL FORTY FEET!
POKE POKE!
GRODDD
GROOO
STOP! YOU'RE HURTING HIM!
NO, I'M TAMING HIM!
?

AGN
AAAH! THE... THE BEAST BIT ME!!
GROOO

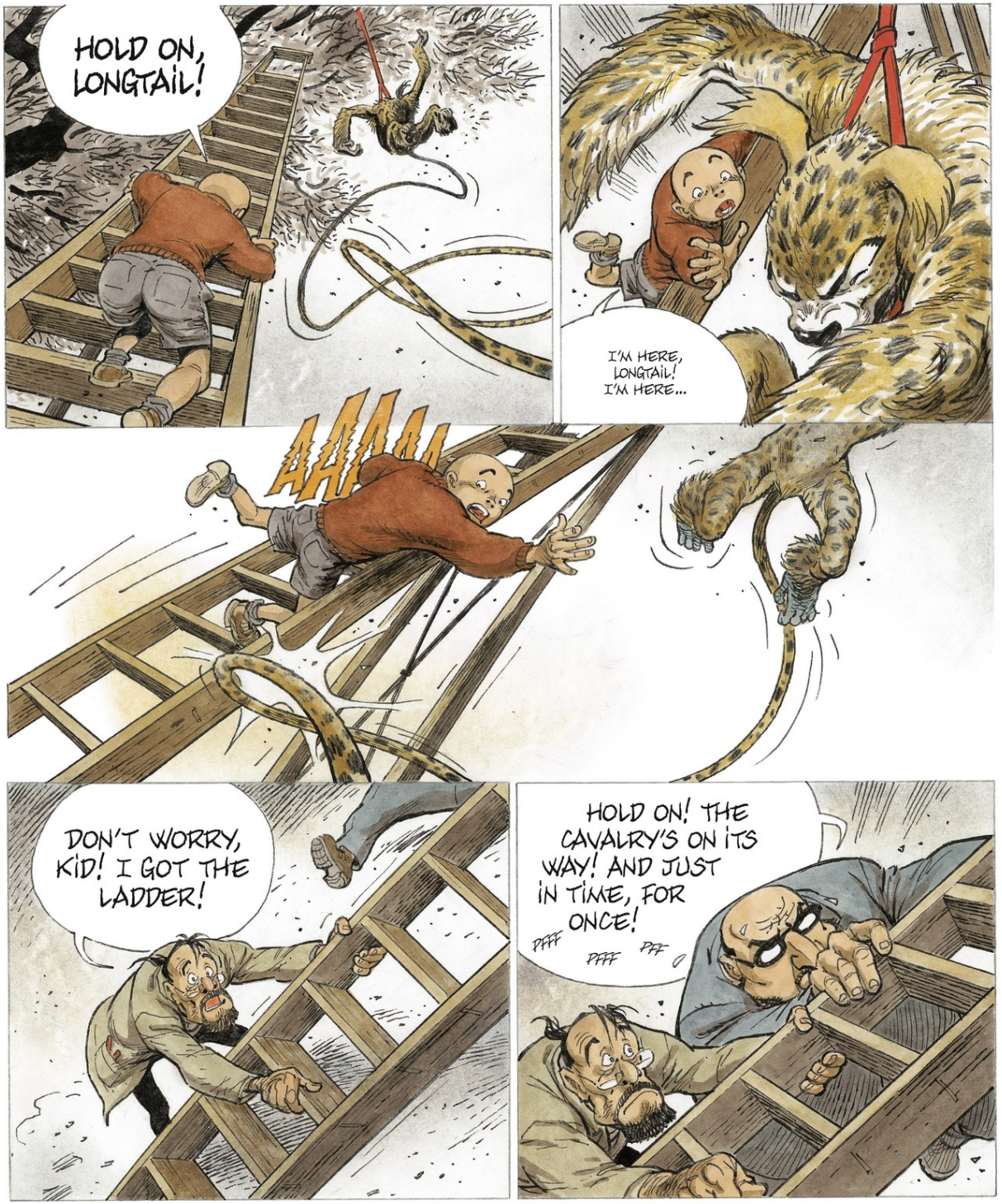
PENG
RECESS IS OVER!
HAR HAR! IT'S LIKE THAT MORON NEVER SAW A WINDOW IN HIS WHOLE LIFE!!
LONGTAIL!
AGROOOO



* WHAT'S ALL THIS?!

FRANÇOIS! WHERE ARE YOU RUNNING OFF TO?
N-NICE LITTLE MONSTER! COME TO DADDY LECRIQUE, NOW! NICE LITTLE MONSTER!

LONGTAIL!
MR. LECRIQUE! YOUR LADDER! QUICK!


HOLD ON, LONGTAIL!
I'M HERE, LONGTAIL! I'M HERE...
AAAAA
DON'T WORRY, KID! I GOT THE LADDER!
HOLD ON! THE CAVALRY'S ON ITS WAY! AND JUST IN TIME, FOR ONCE!
PFFF
PFFF
PAF

VAN DEN KROOT! PFF PFF! IF YOU FAIL, I'M FAILING YOU IN GYM CLASS!
I...
"LITTLE PIGGY, HANGING BY THE THROAT! PULL ON HIS TAIL AND HE'LL BRAY LIKE A GOAT!"
WHAT ABOUT YOU, YOU BUNCH OF BUMPKINS?! DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GO GET ME A SHEET OR A TABLE CLOTH OR A GYM MAT... SOMETHING TO CATCH THIS POOR CREATURE!!
?
?
GRAB MY PRUNER, KID!

GOT IT!
YOU KNOW, I THINK THE BLUE ACTUALLY LOOKS GOOD!
WEEEEEE!

ALAIN STEINBERG!?
MRS. STEINBERG'S SON?!
WELL, HE STARTED IT! HE WAS TORTURING LONGTAIL!
I HOPE THE BITE DIDN'T GO TOO DEEP!
PFF! IT WAS NOTHING! BUT TO HEAR THAT DIKKENEK* TELL IT, IT WAS LIKE HE GOT EATEN BY A SHARK!
WHERE'S YOUR PET NOW?
IN HIS NEST, RECOVERING FROM ALL THE TRAUMA, MR. BONIFACE DROVE US HOME.
ZZZZZZZ
OH! SPEAKING OF WHICH, HE GAVE ME--
I'LL JUST GO CHECK ON YOUR CLASSMATE AND APOLOGIZE TO HIS MOTHER.
BUT THEY'RE THE ONES WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE! AFTER ALL, LONGTAIL WAS JUST DEFENDING HIMSELF!
?!

* BIG MOUTH

MRS. STEINBERG?! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO--
RUN AWAY? YES, I CAN SEE THAT.
WELL, NO SUCH LUCK!
MISS VAN DEN KROOT?
A COMPLAINT HAS BEEN FILED AGAINST YOU.
OR RATHER AGAINST A WILD ANIMAL THAT YOU AND YOUR SON ARE ILLEGALLY KEEPING IN YOUR HOME.
JEANNE VAN DEN KROOT HAS ALWAYS HAD A GREAT SENSE OF HOSPITALITY... ESPECIALLY TOWARDS OUTSIDERS!

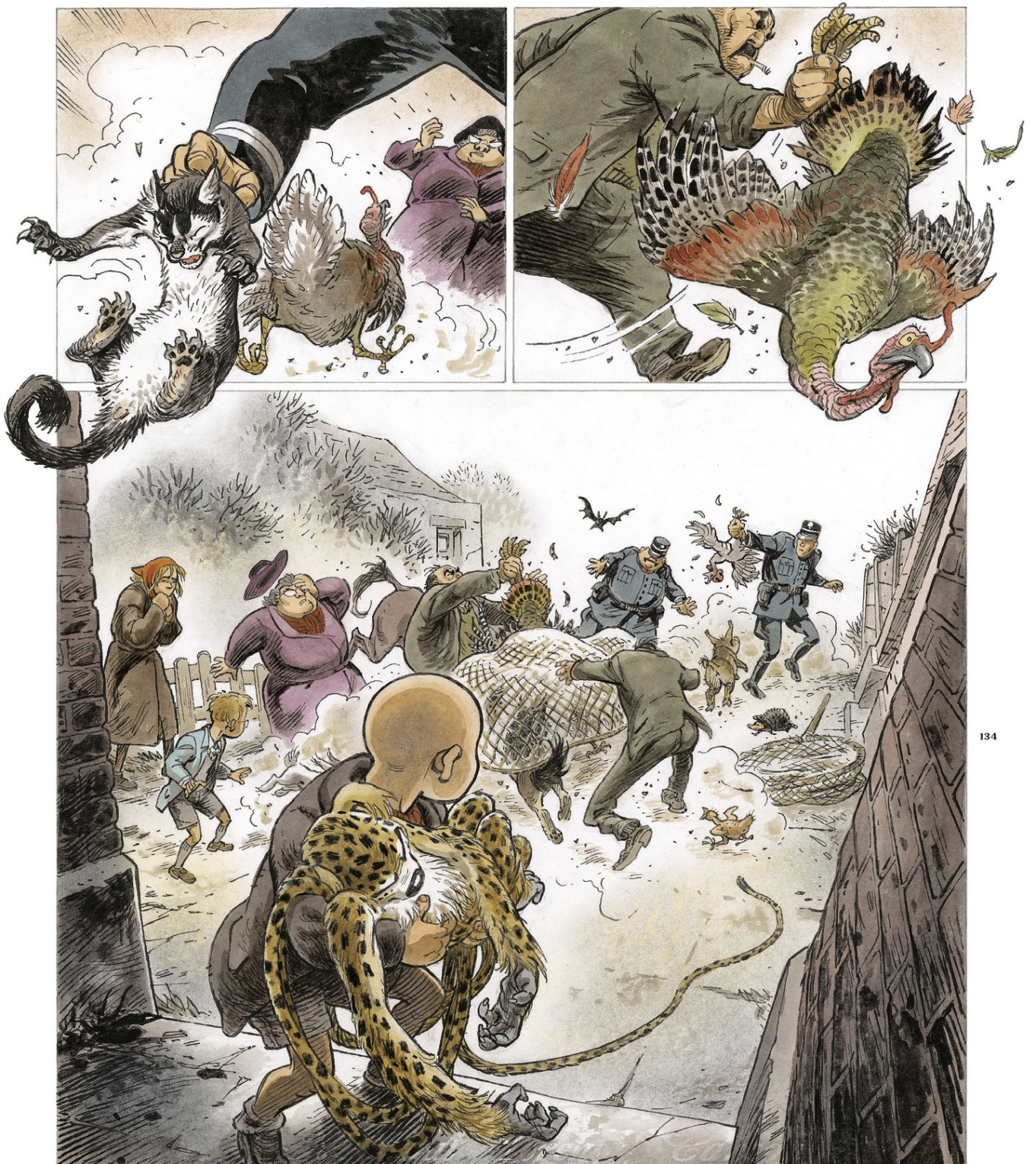
I'LL ASK YOU TO PLEASE SHOW ME WHERE THAT ANIMAL IS.
I... ER... I DON'T KNOW. I'VE JUST COME FROM WORK, AND...
IT'S IN THERE!
THAT'S THE VICIOUS BEAST THAT ALMOST RIPPED MY HAND OFF! RIGHT IN THERE...
GET TO WORK, GENTLEMEN!
WHAT WILL THEY DO TO HIM?
KEEP HIM FROM DOING ANY MORE HARM.
?

?
UP AND AT 'EM, SLEEPING BEAUTY! I BROUGHT YOU BREAKFAST IN BED!
SNF
SNF
HAP!

WHAT'S THAT?
A MEATBALL...
...WITH A SLEEPING PILL THAT PACKS A PUNCH! TRUST ME, SON, WHAT THE CITY PAYS ME AIN'T NEARLY ENOUGH TO RISK HAVING THAT LITTLE TEDDY BEAR OF YOURS RIP MY FACE OFF!
AN' DOWN HE GOES!
EASY PEA--
??
HA HA! WOULD YOU LOOK AT THIS LITTLE PIGLET ACTING LIKE A BIG OL' BOAR!
HA HA! THAT'S JUST TOO CUTE!
KRON! KRON!
OW!
HAGN!
COME HERE, YOU! WAIT'LL I SHOW YOU WHY THEY NICKNAMED ME THE "GUNNER OF BERCHEM-SAINTE-AGATHE" WHEN I PLAYED SOCCER!
KRON! KRON!

AAARGH!
WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT?!
WHOA!!
WARH!
HEEY!
iIIiiiiiKKK
AAAH!
MAAW
PRRR-T
KRON
KRON
iiiiK
KRiiii
WARH!
EK
EK
EK

HOW MANY ANIMALS YOU GOT IN HERE?
I GAVE UP TRYING TO TAKE INVENTORY AGES AGO!
SHOULD WE CALL FOR BACKUP, LIEUTENANT?
PUT THAT GUN AWAY, NOW! WE DIDN'T COME HERE ON SAFARI!
WELL, GENTLEMEN, SINCE THESE ANIMALS ALL SEEM SO FOND OF EACH OTHER...
PACK UP THE WHOLE DARN LOT!!



YOU CAN'T DO THIS! THEY BELONG TO ME!
MOM! DO SOMETHING!

MY GOD,
IT REALLY IS LIKE
A ZOO IN HERE!

TRY TO BE REASONABLE, SON! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A MONKEY. HE DOESN'T BELONG HERE!

BESIDES, THAT CRITTER DREW BLOOD. AND AN ANIMAL THAT'S LEARNED TO BITE...
IT WAS SELF-DEFENSE! HE WAS JUST PROTECTING HIMSELF, IS ALL!

THE HORSE WON'T FIT IN THE TRUCK FROM THE POUND, LIEUTENANT.
47 ZAP
WELL, THEN I GUESS LET'S PUT HIM IN OURS.
OH, COME ON. IT WAS A JOKE!

KLAP!
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR YOUR BOY, MISS VAN DEN KROOT... BUT IT'S SAFER FOR EVERYONE THIS WAY.

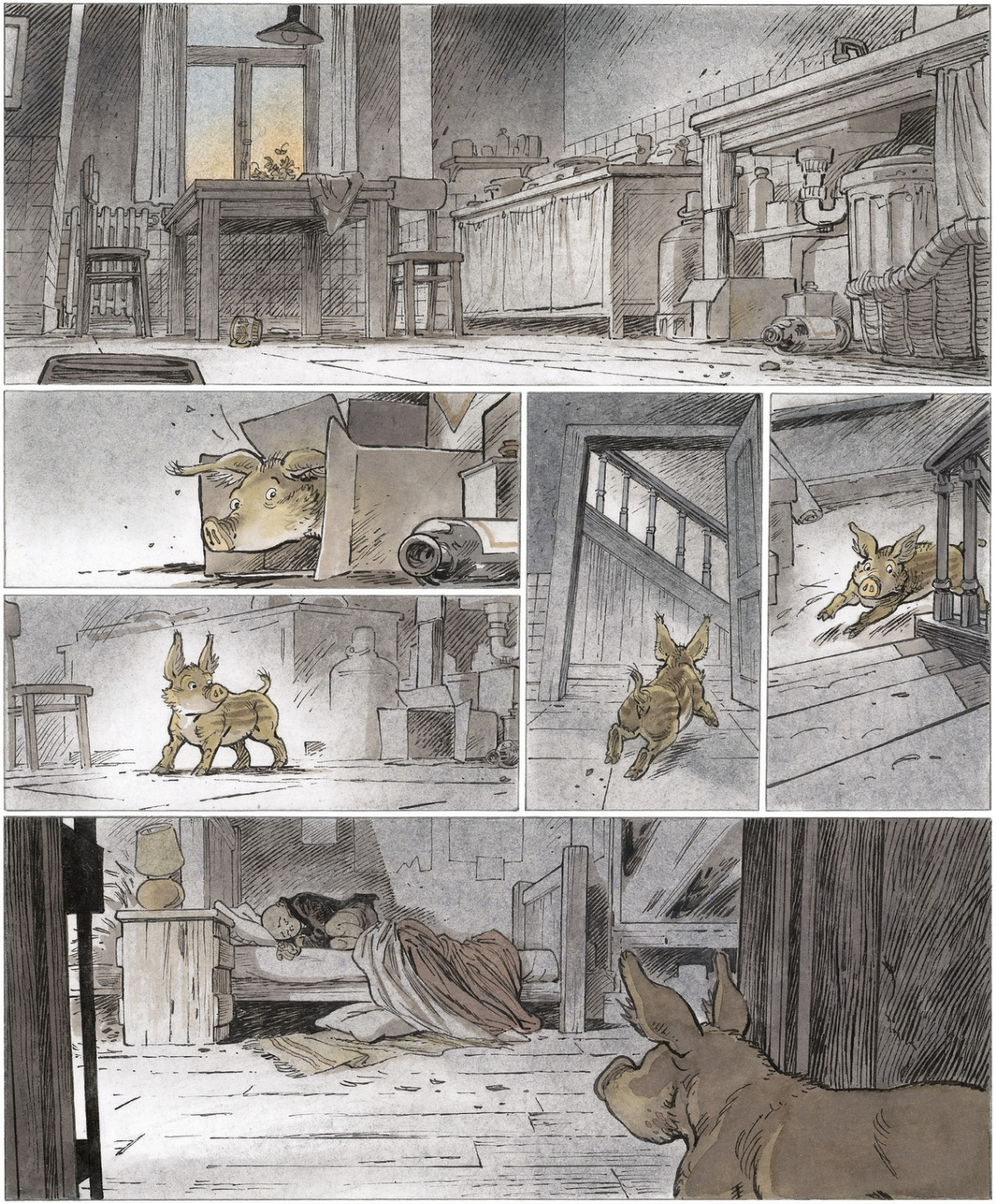
"O MY EURYDICE! MY PENELOPE! LET THIS LETTER BE MY AMBASSADOR..."
DO YOU NEED ME FOR ANYTHING ELSE, MR. BONIFACE?

"LOOK INSIDE THE ENVELOPE. THERE YOU'LL FIND MY HEART."
?
NO, PAULETTE. THANK YOU. YOU CAN GO.
OH, YOU BROUGHT OUT YOUR GOOD SUIT!
YES, THOUGH IT'S A LITTLE TIGHT. I'VE PUT ON A FEW POUNDS.
THANKS TO YOUR SCRUMPTIOUS CHICORY AU GRATIN!
OH, I CAN FIX THAT IN NO TIME! I'LL DO IT TOMORROW MORNING.
HAVE YOU BEEN INVITED TO A WEDDING?
A WEDDING?
HMM... WHY NOT?

DRING DRING
WILL YOU EXCUSE ME?
MR... MR. SNEUTVELMANS?!
I RECEIVED YOUR SLIDES, BORA!
TELEPHONE
MAY THE KRAKEN EAT ME ALIVE! IF THAT ANIMAL IS WHAT I THINK IT IS, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE MOST AMAZING DISCOVERY IN THE HISTORY OF CRYPTOZOOLOGY, SUCH AS IT IS!
I'M TAKING THE FIRST FERRY TO OSTENDE. I SHOULD BE IN BRUSSELS IN THE MORNING.
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR LECTURE SERIES ON THE LOCH NESS MONSTER?
BOM BOM BOM
AHEM! IT WAS UNEXPECTEDLY CUT SHORT.
MY THEORY WAS FOOLISHLY CONTESTED WHEN THE FECES I CLAIMED BELONGED TO THE CREATURE OF THE LAKE WAS-- ALLEGEDLY!--PROVEN TO BE EXCREMENT FROM A COMMON HIGHLAND, ONE OF THOSE SCOTTISH COWS.
YOU FRAUD!
IMPOSTEUR!
CHARLAT

CHRISSAKE! I SURE HOPE THAT PIGLET DIDN'T HAVE RABIES.
FOURRIERE
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO THE SPOTTED MONKEY?
HE'S BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE ANTWERP ZOO.
WHERE I BET HE BECOMES THE NUMBER ONE ATTRACTION!

PEOPLE SURE DO HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR WEIRD ANIMALS THAT LOOK LIKE THEY CAME RIGHT OUT OF A DISNEY CARTOON!
WHAT ABOUT THE KID'S OTHER CRITTERS?
D'YOU SEE THE SHAPE THEY'RE IN?



Vellingen,
December 24, 1946.
Jeanne, my Jeanne,
I hope you and the boy are well.
The war may be over but some wounds will take time
to heal. I've resumed my position as a French teacher
at the middle school in Schwenningen.
I am also back with my wife, Katrin,
and my two daughters, Sybille and Angola.
I got my life back.
anymore. And please don't com

I got my life back.
I must ask you not to write to me anymore. And please don't come here to see me. To your people, I am now— and perhaps will always be— the filthy "Kraut." I hope to spare you the same fate.
The war is over. So is our love story. Be happy.
Or at least try to be.
Ich liebe dich.
Your Franz.
WHAT HAPPENS NOW, PRINCEY?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

KTSHiii
I GUESS WE'LL START BY HAVING OURSELVES A BEER, AND THEN...
TINK
...AND THEN WE'LL SEE!

END OF PART 1

To André–
We hope he will see himself in these pages.

– The authors

Based on the work of André Franquin, creator of the Marsupilami.

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MAGIC MAN

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